



REPORT
ON THE
Administration of Burma
FOR THE YEAR 1928-29

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of Burma

For the Year 1928-29.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

1. *Changes in the Administration.*—His Excellency Sir Charles Alexander Innes, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., continued as Governor throughout the year, but the Hon'ble Sir W. J. Keith, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., was succeeded as Finance Member by the Hon'ble Mr. S. A. Smyth, C.S.I., I.C.S., on the 1st May 1928. The Hon'ble Sir J. A. Maung Gyi, *Barrister-at-Law*, continued in office as Home Member and the Hon'ble Sir Lee Ah Yain, *Barrister-at-Law*, as Forest Minister. The Hon'ble Dr. Ba Yin, M.B., Ch.B., was succeeded on the 20th December 1928 as Education Minister by the Hon'ble U Ba Tin, *Barrister-at-Law*. There was no other change in the personnel of Government, and no territorial change of importance. In order to effect an improvement in the administration of the Forest Department in the province and to develop its resources more effectively, the Secretary of State sanctioned during the year the reallocation of the Indian Forest Service posts sanctioned in 1920. The Burma Forest Service, Class I, the Burma Agricultural Service, Class I, and the Burma Engineering Service, Class I, were constituted during the year in order to effect replacements in the all-India Services of the respective departments. The Excise Commissioner was relieved of the control of the Salt Department on the formation of a separate Salt Department under the control of the Central Government.

2. *Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.*—Owing to affairs in Yunnan having become more settled the First Frontier meeting since 1926 was held at Nawnngma in January 1929. There were a few petty incidents on the Chinese frontier which are described later. Our relations with the Siamese and the French of Indo-China remained cordial and these frontiers were quiet.

His Excellency the Viceroy visited Taunggyi on the 24th November 1928 and held a durbar at which almost all the Shan Chiefs were present. Hkun Kiao Sam, K.S.M., *Sawbwa* of Mōngnai, died on the 20th August 1928, and his eldest son Sao Kyaw Ho was appointed *Sawbwa* on probation. The funeral of the late *Sawbwa* of Hsipaw was held on the 22nd December 1928 and was attended by several Shan *Sawbwās* and Europeans. The seventh session of the Federal Council of Shan Chiefs was held from the 30th November to the 7th December 1928.

Rats did serious damage to crops in parts of the Shan States. Large seizures of smuggled opium were made but smugglers now work in armed gangs and their arrest is fraught with much danger. In the Southern States foot and mouth disease destroyed a very large number of cattle. It was not a healthy year. There were many deaths from cholera in the Northern Shan States but malaria is the chief scourge of the country. The rainfall in the Karen States was much less than in the previous year and crops in the Salween area failed from drought. Considerable progress was made with the development of the Mawchi mines.

Expeditions were sent to the Triangle and the Hukawng Valley during the year and the condition of released slaves there was found, on the whole, to be satisfactory. An expedition was also sent to the Naga Hills. The areas in which human sacrifice is carried out, the areas from which the victims are generally brought, and the villages engaged in the traffic as middlemen, were ascertained. Thirty-four slaves, potential victims, were released. The Sadon frontier of the Myitkyina District was more peaceful than in the previous year when it was disturbed by armed robbers from China and the administered Kachin Hill Tracts were quiet. The Htawgaw Post was practically ruined by earthquakes and the bulk of the garrison had to be shifted to Laukhaung, near which efforts are being made to find a suitable site for a new permanent post. The year was uneventful in the Chin Hills.

3. *Administration of the Land.*—There was no change in land revenue law. The land revenue demand increased by over Rs. 5½ *lakhs* to about Rs. 344 *lakhs*, but the amount remitted increased by about one *lakh* to Rs. 9½ *lakhs*. More difficulty was experienced in the collection of revenue than in the previous year, particularly in Tharrawaddy District. The amount of revenue for the recovery of which processes were issued was about double the corresponding figure of last year. The proportion of land in the hands of non-agriculturists continues to increase. Six parties of the Survey of India were working in Burma during the year in addition to the provincial parties. There was a small increase in the total occupied area under supplementary survey. The area surveyed continues to decrease owing to the ever-lessening amount of land which remains for survey after the early extension of

supplementary survey. Settlement operations were carried on in the Upper Chindwin, Lower Chindwin, Myitkyina, Pakôkku, Maubin, and Thatôn Districts. Preliminary operations were also conducted in Hanthawaddy District. The Rangoon Development Trust continued to administer the Government Estate in Rangoon and the rents from it showed a satisfactory increase. No new land was added to Government Estates outside Rangoon but there was a slight increase in the assessed area. Rents were collected earlier than in the previous year but owing to the low prices offering for paddy and the tightness of the money market difficulty was experienced in their collection. In the Society area over a hundred tenants were expelled by the societies for failure to pay their dues and in the Estate area many unsubstantial tenants had to give place to tenants of a better type.

4. *Protection*.—Only two Bills were passed by the Burma Legislative Council during the twelve months ending the 31st August 1929. These were the Indian Stamp (Burma Amendment) Bill, 1928, which extended the period of limitation for presenting certain instruments from one month to three months and the Burma Financial Commissioners' Bill, 1928, which was enacted so as to provide for two Financial Commissioners of equal status instead of a Financial Commissioner with an Additional Financial Commissioner. Six other Bills were introduced but none of them passed into law during the period under review.

The volume of crime was greater than in the previous year, particularly in the case of crimes of violence. The number of murders increased from about eight hundred to nine hundred. The total number of true cases of important crime increased by about eight *per cent.* There was a decrease in the percentage of convictions obtained in true cases of important crime. Last year's results were, however, particularly good. The Paukkaung Reformatory Settlement has had an excellent effect on crime but it has not been a financial success and steps have been taken to select a more suitable locality. A great deal of attention has been paid to the work of surveillance but although the staff are becoming more efficient there is still room for improvement. Many officers have commented on the improvement in the discipline and conduct of the police force. Co-operative credit societies were instituted in seven more districts and there was a big increase in the aggregate share capital. The Military Police were requisitioned in Minbu, Tharrawaddy and a few other districts in Lower Burma in connection with the political agitation arising from the non-payment of capitation tax.

In Rangoon a new Traffic Advisory Board under the presidency of the Commissioner of the Rangoon Corporation was appointed during the year to advise on all matters in connection with traffic control and regulation. For the second year in succession the number of prosecutions under the Excise Act instituted by the Rangoon Police has more

than doubled, the increased activity being due to the continuance of the campaign against the sale of ganja. More than a hundred and ten thousand tolas of ganja were seized during the year. The number of prosecutions under the Opium Act also increased considerably, the seizures amounting to nearly a hundred and eighty thousand tolas.

The shortage of special power magistrates was a cause of great inconvenience. There was a slight increase in the number of cases tried in the criminal courts, but a much larger number of cases ought to have been dismissed summarily without trial. Although there was an increase in the number of persons under trial for murder, attempted murder and culpable homicide the number of death sentences was only about two-thirds of the number in the previous year. There was a big increase in the number of sentences of whipping passed, from which it would appear that some use has been made of the extended provisions for the punishment of whipping contained in the Burma Whipping (Amendment) Act of 1927.

The Jail population continues to increase faster than the total population. There was an increase of nearly 40 *per cent.* in the number of prison offences dealt with by Criminal Courts. Most of these related to assaults, attempts to escape or to striking work. The work of the Revising Board continued with encouraging results. Two ticket-of-leave camps were closed down during the year leaving only the one at Sathwa. Except for one case of dacoity they were free from any serious crime. The Textile Department in the Insein Jail has progressed under the direction of the Textile Expert. Six blanket power looms and a milling machine have been installed with the object of manufacturing blankets for the Police and other consuming departments. This is the first power section installed in the Textile Department. The Boot Factory started in March 1928 has progressed satisfactorily and now supplies about fifteen thousand pairs of boots annually. The process-serving establishment of the province was reorganised, as a result of which it was placed on time-scales of pay which represent an advance of nearly 50 *per cent.* on previous rates.

5. *Agriculture.*—Except in the Arakan Division the season was a poor one for the rice crop in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the weather conditions were generally favourable for rice and fair to moderate for dry crops, except in Meiktila and Sagaing Districts where the season was a bad one. The monsoon broke generally earlier than usual. The early rains were good, but the late rains failed almost everywhere. There were small increases in the net area irrigated and in the area protected from floods by embankments. Dry crops suffered in Upper Burma, particularly in the Magwe and Mandalay Divisions. Millet and sesamum continue to give place to groundnut, the area under which increased by about ten *per cent.* There was a further

shrinkage in the area under cotton. The year witnessed a further decline in paddy prices. Compared with last year there were also noticeable decreases in the prices of sesamum, groundnut, millet and maize. On the other hand, the prices of large and small white beans, red beans and gram show a marked recovery from the fall in prices last year. A new fertilizer known as Leunaphos was tested by the Agricultural Department and the results in most cases were satisfactory. Experiments have been made for the last few years with a new white bean known as Moki Lima, and a shipment to London having realised a good price, steps will be taken to place the seed at the disposal of the cultivators and to introduce it into the general trade of the province. Sericultural operations were continued at Maymyo and Paukkaung and it has been proved that the mulberry plant can grow quite well at Akyab, Hmawbi, Mudon, Taikôn and Mandalay. Seed distribution also received attention and the policy of getting areas excluded from grazing grounds and letting them out to tenants for the purpose of producing pure seeds was continued. In the dry zone cultivators were given demonstrations. Other publicity methods tried were the exhibition of improved seed at pagoda festivals, the holding of agricultural shows and the distribution of leaflets.

There was a decided decrease in the number of deaths of cattle from contagious diseases. Deaths from rinderpest were little more than half the previous year's figure, and nearly seventy *per cent* of them were in the Akyab District. In this district, where it is practically impossible to enforce the Cattle Disease Rules of the Burma Village Act owing to local customs in the handling of stock, there were also more than four hundred deaths from anthrax. The question of improving these rules and also of introducing new legislation for dealing with cattle disease is at present under consideration.

6 *Co-operative Societies*.—During the year 471 co-operative credit societies in a hopeless financial position were wound up. As a result of closer control and supervision repayment by the societies to their financing banks improved slightly. The Imperial Bank of India under the guarantee of Government continued to help the Burma Provincial Co-operative Bank, Ltd., which is thus being wound up gradually, by the grant of a special cash credit of Rs. 14 *lakhs*. The Local Government further helped the Bank by granting a contribution of Rs. 18'30 *lakhs* of which 15 *lakhs* had already been utilized in the repayment of fixed deposits already due.

Owing to their unsatisfactory financial condition, the Pakôkku and Sagu-Salin District Central Co-operative Banks were placed in liquidation after the close of the year under report.

The liquidation of the Urban Central Co-operative Bank continued, and good progress was made in recovering its debts during the year.

of report. The Bank suffered a long period of mismanagement and of contempt on the part of its management for its own bye-laws. The prosecution of some of the Bank's officials has not yet ended.

Pegu, Henzada, Prome and Moulmein District Central Banks did well and maintained a normal level of profit. The Sittang Colonies Banking Union continued to do good business and made a good profit during the year and has accumulated its own capital up to 66 per cent. of the total working capital.

7. *Forests*.—There was a big increase in the departmental extractions of teak by Government due to a larger number of logs having been measured and taken over, but there was a reduction in the output of teak by lessees and licensees. There was also a decrease in the extraction of timber other than teak due to trade depression. A decrease in the output of fuel is said to be due to the use of coal by the major consuming agencies. There was a drop in forest revenue due partly to the commercialisation of the accounts of the Utilization Circle and partly to a poor floating season for teak and a poor demand for other species of timber.

8. *Mines and Quarries*.—There was an increase in the provincial output of petroleum. The decrease in production in the Yenangyaung field continued but a number of new wells were put to production at Indaw (Upper Chindwin District), Lanywa (Pakôkku District), and in the Singu and Mmbu field. The production of the Burma Corporation was slightly less than in the previous year. Work still continues to be done at the Burma Ruby Mines. The production of rubies there decreased slightly but that of sapphires and spinels increased considerably. The production of tin concentrates was larger than in the preceding year but its value was less. The price of wolfram rose during the year and there was an increase in the output. The relations between employers and labourers were good and there were no strikes in any mine during the year under review. Sanitary conditions and housing accommodation were usually satisfactory but much can still be done to lessen the overcrowding of labour camps in Tavoy.

9. *Trade and Industry*.—The industrial element still forms only a small part of the total population. The total number employed in industry was slightly more than in the previous year. There was a decrease in the numbers of women and children employed.

The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the province with foreign countries, Indian ports and between provincial ports was more than ten *per cent.* less than in the previous year. Trade with foreign ports dropped by about nineteen *per cent.* but that between Indian ports fell by only 2½ *per cent.*, while that between provincial ports was practically the same as last year. Exports of rice and paddy to foreign ports

declined considerably, but those to Indian ports (excluding Burma ports) increased. The rice trade of Burma has suffered by the increasingly keen competition of other rice consuming countries, such as Egypt, Italy, Spain and Siam, which, by increasing the acreage under rice have changed from importing into exporting countries. Other exports besides rice which declined in value were mineral oil, teak and rubber. Hides and skins on the other hand were exported in larger quantities. The depression in the rice market reacted on the trade of the province generally and a decline took place in almost all the principal articles imported. Imports of cotton manufactures, metals and ores, hardware, machinery, railway plant and rolling stock and coal fell considerably in value. Imports of motor cars and omnibuses were greater but those of motor cycles were down due apparently to the fact that second-hand motor cars are available in the market at prices below those of new motor cycles. The balance of trade in favour of Burma was Rs 30·75 crores or slightly more than in the previous year. The United Kingdom's share of the import trade decreased by about five *per cent.* and her share of the export trade increased by about ten *per cent.*

10 *Public Works and Irrigation.*—The development of the communications of the province continued to receive attention. During the year the Roads Committee of the Communications Board and the Government Buildings Committee were divested of their power to accord financial sanction and were reconstituted as merely advisory to the Finance Department. In the case of the Western Trunk Road the alignment *via* Taungdwingyi, Magwe, Yenangyaung and on to Kyaukpadaung was adopted instead of the original Taungdwingyi-Natmauk-Shwebandaw-Thabyegon route. Less was spent on Civil Works than in the previous three years. The construction of the Rangoon Courts and the University Buildings was continued. The Burma Railways were taken over by the State with effect from the 1st January 1929. Twenty-two miles were opened to traffic and many other sections were under construction. Work was continued on the Sagaing bridge which is expected to be completed early in 1933. Floods caused many stoppages on the railways, particularly on the Mu Valley line. The earnings of the Burma Railways and the tramways in Rangoon and Mandalay continued to be affected adversely by the competition of motor omnibuses. The Twante and Pegu Sittang canals were maintained in good order. In the case of irrigation works of all kinds there was a net revenue balance of nearly Rs 15 *lakhs*.

11. *Central and Provincial Revenues and Finance* —There was no change during the year in the financial relations between the Central and Provincial Governments. Central receipts fell by Rs. 85 *lakhs* due mainly to smaller receipts under Customs and Taxes on Income. Smaller Customs receipts from imports were due to the general

depression in trade, while the reduced demand for rice from foreign countries was mainly responsible for the fall in the duty from exports. There was also a decrease in the Excise duty on kerosene due to the activities of the foreign oil concerns in the local market but this was partly counterbalanced by an increase in the duty on motor spirit.* The drop in revenue from taxes on income is attributed to the general trade depression and to the diminution of the profits of oil companies due to price cutting. There was a decrease in the consumption of salt and the revenue therefrom. Central expenditure fell by about 4½ lakhs.

Provincial receipts were greater but expenditure less than in the previous year. A larger sum was taken from the Provincial Loans Fund to finance the capital programme of development of the province. There was an increase of nearly Rs. 10 lakhs under Excise due to larger receipts from the sale of country fermented liquor and opium and land revenue yielded Rs. 4½ lakhs more. The betting tax, a new tax levied during the year, yielded over Rs. 4½ lakhs. Increased revenue was obtained from irrigation works. There was a decrease in revenue from the forests due largely to the commercialisation of the accounts of the Utilization Circle and to the fact that receipts for only three quarters of the year were credited. As regards expenditure less was spent on education and smaller loans were given to municipalities and other local bodies. More, however, was spent on general administration, the administration of justice, jails, the police, ports and pilotage, and for the medical, public health and agricultural departments.

12 *Local Bodies*—The general elections to Circle Boards which took place during the year were not keenly contested, only a little over a quarter of the people voting. The functions of Circle Boards are limited in scope as the District Councils are not yet in a position to delegate to them independent powers or to place adequate funds at their disposal. They continued therefore to act as agents of the Councils in supervising public works, markets, etc. Only four District Councils can subsist on the assigned revenues without Government contribution; the rest are still in the process of learning to develop existing local sources of revenue and to exploit new sources. The Council and the Joint School Board of one district were superseded for a period during the year under review on account of maladministration. The Councils incurred a substantially larger expenditure on public works and vernacular education with the help of special contributions from Provincial Funds. Nearly one half of the ordinary income of District Councils is obtained from Government contributions.

Rangoon, like the rest of the province, did not enjoy a healthy year. There was a substantial increase in the number of deaths from plague and small-pox but there were fewer deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea. Infantile mortality increased. The most pressing sanitary problem in Rangoon is still the provision of an adequate supply of pure

water. Schemes hitherto put forward have proved prohibition in cost and investigations are still proceeding. Meanwhile the existing water supply system has been improved.

The income of municipalities outside Rangoon rose by a little over Rs. 2 lakhs due mainly to increased receipts from municipal rates and taxes and from pawnshop licenses and fees from markets and slaughter-houses. The expenditure on the other hand rose by about Rs. 12 lakhs due largely to increased expenditure on roads. Service taxes are in many cases still insufficient to meet the expenditure on the special services of lighting and conservancy. The incidence of municipal taxation is now about four rupees per head of the population.

Rental receipts from the Rangoon Government Estate which is administered by the Development Trust increased substantially. The financial position of the Estate is steadily improving. On the General Development side only a very small income is obtained from rentals, the main difficulty being the uncertainty when the Corporation will be in a position to provide a water supply for the areas in the north-east of Rangoon. The Rangoon Port Commissioners made considerable progress with their main schemes for the development of the port.

13. *Vital Statistics and Medical Services.*—The year was more unhealthy than its predecessor and there was an increased number of deaths from all the chief diseases. It was a particularly bad year for cholera. There was an increase also in the infant mortality rate. In Maymyo the Lady Innes Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was opened during the year and is the first of its kind to be established in this country. Efforts are also being made by other infant welfare societies to look after the children for varying periods after birth. There was a slight increase in the number of hospitals and dispensaries, but progress is hampered by financial stringency. Useful work was done by the travelling dispensaries. The number of patients treated in hospitals has increased. Malaria continues to be the chief disease for which patients are treated but tuberculosis still claims a heavy toll of victims and better preventive measures are under consideration. The Pasteur Institute continues to do good work. The new Mental Hospital at Tada-U was completed and occupied during the year. The average daily population is roundabout a thousand. Besides considering various projects and applications for grants the Provincial Public Health Board took the initiative for the preparation of a geological survey of Rangoon and its environs in connection with the Rangoon Water Supply Scheme. The number of primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations has been steadily increasing for some years and the current year's figures are the highest on record. The increase in number was partly due to the prevalence of small-pox in epidemic form. The beneficial results of vaccinations are, however, becoming

more and more evident and many Municipal and Town Committees and two District Councils during the year extended the provisions of the Vaccination Acts to their jurisdictions. It is hoped that others will follow suit.

14 *Instruction*.—Educationally the year was, on the whole, one of steady progress. The number of recognised schools increased and there was an increase of pupils in every stage of instruction. The total recorded expenditure was slightly less than in the previous year but amounted to over two crores of rupees, of which more than half was contributed from Provincial Funds. Receipts from fees were appreciably larger. There was a very satisfactory increase in the number of pupils, particularly girls, attending Primary schools but those remaining in the Lower Primary standards are still far too numerous as they represent about four-fifths of the total. The most serious educational problem is, perhaps, the unrecognised monastic school, of which there are over 14,000 with an attendance of about 140,000. The problem will become acute when, or if, an attempt is made to introduce compulsory education. The qualifications of teachers in secondary schools remain low, but any improvement in their salaries is dependent on an enhancement of the scale of fees, which are still at practically pre-war rates. The English High School results were very good and those of the Middle School quite satisfactory but the four remaining examinations, namely, the Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular, High and Middle were very poor.

The total number of pupils receiving University and Intermediate education is practically the same as last year, being about 1,730. Of these three-fifths were in Intermediate Classes. Out of ten students who join the University only three obtain a degree. During the year three new hostels were opened. The Medical Department of University College now has a Dean of Medical Studies and eleven Professors but there were only sixty-seven students during the year.

15 *Miscellaneous*.—In the early part of the year there was a movement by the leaders of certain political parties to discover a common platform for political propaganda and to form a Unity League, but nothing came of it. An attempt was also made to form a league called the "Burma for the Burmans League," the main object of which appears to have been the separation of Burma from India. A meeting was advertised to discuss not only Separation but subjects such as the introduction of legislation to enable the priesthood to control itself. Discussion of this particular subject was deeply resented by the political section of the priests who held another meeting on the same day, the outcome of which was the formation of the so-called Hundred Committee composed of *savādaws* and members of various political parties.

The policy of this Committee included the boycott of the Simon Commission, non-separation from India and implicit obedience in all matters to the priests. The general elections for the new Legislative Council were held in November 1928. The People's Party had the largest number of representatives in the House but they were divided among themselves on many questions. The Ministers were chosen from the Independent Party which had the next largest number. Seven members were Home Rulers and five belonged to the National Parliamentary Organisation, a new party formed during the year and an offshoot of the People's Party. The Simon Commission visited Burma during February 1929. The political section of the Burmese priesthood and certain extremist Indian politicians made preparations to boycott the Commission, and a procession was arranged for the day of arrival, but there was very little enthusiasm for a boycott and the procession was a failure. An attempt at hostile demonstration when the Commission visited Mandalay fell equally flat. Evidence was recorded by the Commission both at Rangoon and at Mandalay; but the only issue in connection with the visit which aroused any general interest was that of the separation of Burma from India.

There was strong anti-Japanese feeling on the part of the Chinese in Rangoon at the beginning of the year and a campaign of boycott of Japanese goods was started but towards the end of the year interest began to wane.

The Bengal Burma Steam Navigation Company was founded during the year to ply steamers between Rangoon and Indian ports in opposition to the British India Steam Navigation Company. The directors are mainly Chittagomians.

Mahatma Gandhi paid a visit to Burma in March 1929 and was well received, but his activities were mainly confined to collecting money for the Khaddar Scheme. Moulana Mohamed Ali also visited Burma to collect money for the Muslim National University, Delhi.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, on the Police and Prison Administration, on the Working of the Registration Department, on the Public Health Administration, on Mental Hospitals, and on the Working of the Indian Factories Act, the Return regarding measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Venomous Snakes, the Reports on Mineral Production and on Hospitals and Dispensaries and the Report of the Chemical Examiner deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1928. The Reports on the Land Revenue and Land Records Administration, on the Working of the Co-operative Societies Act and on the Operations of the Department of Agriculture and the Season and Crop Report are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1928 to the end of June 1929. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1929

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

- Quarterly Civil List for Burma, corrected up to the 1st April 1929.
- Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ending the 30th June 1929.
- Report on the Land Records Administration of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1929.
- Report on the Civil Veterinary Department (including the Insein Veterinary School), Burma, for the year ended the 31st March 1929.
- Report on the Public Health Administration of Burma for the year 1928.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 8 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 9 to 18 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22. The Tariff Autonomy Treaty between Great Britain and China signed on the 20th December 1928 is expected to affect to a considerable extent the land frontier trade between Burma and China.

Form of Administration.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 19 to 42 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22, and to the paragraphs under this head for the years 1923-24, 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28. The Central Board of Revenue is the Chief Customs Authority. There is a Collector of Customs at Rangoon who is also Chief Customs Officer for all ports in Burma. At other ports the Port Officer or the Deputy Commissioner and at Victoria Point the Subdivisional Officer is *ex officio* Collector. There are three Assistant Collectors of the Imperial Service in Rangoon.

Character of Land Tenures : System of Survey and Settlement.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 43 to 56 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 57 to 67 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22, as modified by the changes recorded in paragraph 2 of the Reports for the years 1925-26 and 1926-27.

Details of the last Census : Tribes and Languages.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 68 to 75 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22.

Changes in the Administration.

1. His Excellency Sir Charles Alexander Innes, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., held the office of Governor throughout the year. The Hon'ble Sir W. J. Keith, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., was succeeded as Finance Member by the Hon'ble Mr. S. A. Smyth, C.S.I., I.C.S., on the 1st May 1928. The Hon'ble Sir J. A. Maung Gyi, *Barrister-at-Law*, continued in office as

Home Member and the Hon'ble Sir Lee Ah Yain, *Barrister-at-Law*, as Forest Minister. The Hon'ble Dr Ba Yin, M.B., Ch.B., was succeeded on the 20th December 1928 as Education Minister by the Hon'ble U Ba Tin, *Barrister-at-Law*.

2. There was no change in administrative territory during the year

**Administrative
Territorial Changes**

3. *Forest Ministry*—In order to effect an improvement in the administration of the Forest estate in the Province and to develop its resources more effectively, the Secretary of State sanctioned, on the 2nd May 1928, the re-allocation of the Indian Forest Service posts sanctioned in 1920 for Burma. The Burma Forest Service, Class I, was constituted with effect from the 17th July 1928, for the purpose of gradually replacing the Indian Forest Service in Burma. In order to effect similar replacements, in the all-India Services of their respective Departments, the Burma Agricultural Service, Class I, and the Burma Engineering Service, Class I, were constituted with effect from the 10th October 1928 and the 20th August 1928, respectively. The services of Mr. D. T. Mitchell, M.R.C.V.S., were obtained on loan from the South African Government for employment as Special Veterinary Research Officer.

Medical Department.—The temporary appointment of Deputy Superintendent, Mental Hospital, Tada-gale, was made permanent with effect from the 1st March 1929.

Public Health Department.—The Municipalities of Nyaunglebin and Thayetmyo appointed each a second class Health Officer with effect from the 1st February 1929 and the 1st March 1929, respectively.

Excise Department.—A reduction in the cadre of Superintendents of Excise and Assistant Superintendents of Excise was sanctioned with effect from the 15th May 1928. The numbers of these appointments after the reduction are 28 and 12, respectively. The Excise Commissioner was relieved of the control of the Salt Department on the formation of a separate Salt Department, under the control of the Central Government, with effect from the 15th May 1928.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(i) *Shan and Karenin States.*

[*Federated Shan States, comprising Northern and Southern Shan States ; six Northern States, area 20,156 square miles, population 585,924 ; 32 Southern States, area 36,157 square miles, population 847,618. Karenin : three States, area 4,280 square miles, population 63,850, tribute Rs. 5,200. Hsawenghsip (Thaungdut) area 529 square miles, population 7,043, tribute Rs. 400. Singkaling Hkamti (Zingalein Kanti) area 983 square miles, population 2,287, tribute Rs. 100. Hkamti Long (Kantigyi) or Bhor Hkamti area 200 square miles, population 7,673, tribute Rs. 2,433*]

4. Affairs in Yunnan having become more settled the first Frontier Meeting since 1926 was held at Nawngma in January 1929. There were no new cases of note. The Chinese denied responsibility for old cases of importance on new nationalistic principles. The old *Sawbwa* of Mongmao (China) died in May 1928 and his son in April 1929. As the infant successor's claim is being challenged by Khun Man, a kinsman, the countryside is living

under arms in a state of apprehension. About March 1929, the Mines east of Panglong on our side of the Scott Line were visited by a Chinese officer with an escort of 80 men under the orders of the Yunnan Government. In the same month Wa *émgrès* who have settled in North Hsenwi visited the Superintendent at Lashio and asked for protection from the tyranny of the Panthay colonists of Panglong, who have reduced the country to famine by their devastations. The Hsip Hsaung Pannas continued to be in a very disturbed state until the end of January 1929. The bands of Cantonese soldiery who were fighting the new Government of Yunnan were dispersed after one or two small successes. They had caused our officials considerable trouble and inconvenience. Our relations with the Siamese and the French of Indo-China remained cordial. These frontiers were quiet.

His Excellency the Viceroy visited Taunggyi on the 24th November 1928, and held a *durbar* at which almost all the Shan Chiefs were present. The *Sawbwa* of Mongkung received his *sanad* and the *Ngwègunhmu* of Yengan his appointment order. The *Sawbwa* of Yawnglwe was confirmed in his appointment and received his *sanad* from His Excellency the Governor of Burma on 20th March 1929. Hkun Kiao Sam, K.S.M., *Sawbwa* of Mongnai, died on 20th August 1928. His eldest son Sao Kwaw Ho was appointed *Sawbwa* on probation. The funeral of the late *Sawbwa* of Hsipaw was held on 22nd December 1928 and was attended by several Shan *Sawbwás* and Europeans. Hkun Seng, the *Myosa* of Hsantung, and Saw Maung, *Ngwègunhmu* of Loi-ai, were removed from their appointments for mal-administration. Sao Hpong, younger brother of the *Myosa* of Kehsi Mansam, who took an active part in the administration of the State, was accidentally shot by a spring gun in March 1929 and died almost immediately.

The seventh session of the Federal Council of Shan Chiefs was held from 30th November to 7th December 1928. The agenda were dealt with by committees whose work enabled the Council to complete the business of the year in four sittings. Just half of the motions on the agenda were withdrawn by the proposers. Amendments to the Shan States Elephant Preservation Order, 1924, were agreed to by the Council.

The sanctioned strength of both the Military Police and Federation Civil Police in the Northern and Southern Shan States remained unchanged. The cold weather tours were uneventful. Military Police patrols in the Northern Shan States captured four dacoits and three rifles. There was an increase of over 24 offences reported to the Federation Police in the Southern Shan States and a decrease of 94 offences in the Northern. The number of cases reported to the State police increased by 121 in the Northern Shan States and by 29 in the Southern. Crime is practically stationary. The total number of cases dealt with was 1,742 in the Northern and 1,899 in the Southern Shan States, with decreases of 34 and 55 cases, respectively. The volume of civil litigation was less and the value of suits smaller by Rs. 9,000.

Rats did serious damage to crops in parts of Kéngtung, Mong Nawng, Mong Hsu and Mong Pan and the paddy crops in the North-Eastern and South-Eastern Subdivisions were poor. Elsewhere in the Southern Shan States they were up to average. In the Northern Shan States famine conditions prevailed in trans-Salween areas owing to destruction of the paddy by rats. South Hsenwi and Manglun suffered similarly.

The *Shwepi* tea crop in Tawngpeng was much less than usual owing to the lateness of rain. The opium crop in the Wa States failed. Large seizures of smuggled opium were made both in the Northern and Southern Shan States. Smugglers of opium now work in armed gangs and arrest is fraught with much danger. The State and Federation Police on occasions have shown commendable bravery and zeal. Rinderpest was prevalent along the Chinese border of Kengtung State but decreased elsewhere in the Federated Shan States. In the Southern States foot-and-mouth disease destroyed a very large number of cattle. The Forest Department had a very good year, the revenues being Rs. 2'85 lakhs more than in the preceding year. The total receipts of Federation for the year exceeded last year's total by a little more than this sum—an increase of six *per cent*. There was a large increase in the export of lac due to stocks having been held up owing to a slump in prices last year. Over 5,660 tons were exported. The Burma Corporation, Limited, had another record year. Work continues on the mining concessions in the Southern Shan States but the output from the Lawksawk *Sawbwa's* mine was only two tons.

The activities of the Public Works Department have been concentrated mainly on road construction and maintenance, the proportion of capital expenditure on roads to buildings being as 3: 1. The length of metalled road was 257 miles, and of unmetalled road, 2,508 miles. The total expenditure for the year was 30'17 lakhs of rupees, of which 5'48 lakhs were spent on buildings. The number of schools increased, the most important addition being a new Anglo-Vernacular Middle Department School at Momeik. The total number of pupils in the schools was 13,326, of whom 36 *per cent* were girls. Expenditure increased by Rs. 31,700. A new and up-to-date dispensary was opened at Kutkai. The number of patients treated during the year in medical institutions in the Shan States increased by over 30,000. It was not a healthy year. The number of vaccinations also increased. Small pox was prevalent in Kengtung and there were 152 cases of cholera in the Northern Shan States with 117 deaths. Malaria continues to be the chief scourge of the country. The work of the four Town Committees calls for no comment. That of Loilem ceased to exist on 1st April 1929 when the balance was transferred to Federation.

5. The health of the three Karenni Chiefs was not good during the year and there was little improvement in the administration of their States. The Assistant Political Officer met the Governor of Meikong near the Me Shwe U on the Karenni-Siam frontier and re-erected a couple of boundary pillars which were found to be missing. Relations with the Siamese border officials continued to be friendly. Rules in connexion with opium and the registration of arms based on the orders in force in the Federated Shan States were introduced during the year.

The sanctioned strength of the Military Police force is 30 men under the command of a Jemadar. A sepoy attacked a Jemadar with a *kukri* and was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment. The Kantarawadi State Police force was increased by 7 men and that of Kyebogyi by two men. The State police are ignorant and incompetent. There were only two violent crimes; both were murders at Mawchi and both went undetected. The number of cases reported to the police was 110 as compared with 149 last year.

The rainfall was 38·48 inches and nearly 20 inches less than in the previous year. The crops in the Salween area failed from drought. The trade in lac and cutch declined owing to unfavourable prices; considerable stocks of the former were consumed in a fire which destroyed Ngwedaung village. The gross revenue of the States increased from Rs. 2'11 lakhs to Rs. 2'31 lakhs. The Bawlake State received a sum of Rs. 20,523 in royalties from the Mawchi Mines which has been invested, and Kantarawadi Rs. 10,000 more from tax on minor forest produce. The expenditure of the States was Rs. 2'09 lakhs as against Rs. 1'85 lakhs last year. The Kantarawadi State Reserve Fund is nearly two lakhs, that of Bawlake Rs. 42,500 and that of Kyebohyi Rs. 10,000.

At the Mawchi Mines the new development scheme has made progress and 10,241 feet of driving has been done, opening up a large quantity of good ore. The mill is being reconditioned and will be restarted early in 1930. The installation of the new Hydro-Electric scheme is practically completed. Rs. 5,25,660 has been spent on developing the lodes and Rs. 13,000 on the Papun-Kyaaukhnyat road. The bridges on the Kemayun-Mawchi road were strengthened and four lorries were in use before the rains. Only 281 tons of concentrate were exported during the year. The daily average of labour was about 900 persons.

There was a decrease of 600 in the number of patients treated at Loikaw Hospital. There are now 24 lay schools; one monastic school was abolished during the year.

6. The Hsawnghsup State had an uneventful year. Harvest was good and there was little crime. The young

Other Shan States

Sawbwa attended the Durbars of His Excellency the Viceroy at Mandalay in December 1928. In Singkaling Hkamti, Ma Hnum Bwin, the Mahadevi of the late *Sawbwa*, was appointed to administer the State during the minority of Maung Ba Thein, the young *Sawbwa* designate. He is being educated at Mawlaik school. The real work of the State is performed by *Amathyi* U Tet Pha. A report was received in July 1929 that in the previous April Nagas and Kukis from the Somra Tract had joined with Matong village from the unadministered territory on Tsiri (Chumi) in the unadministered area east of the Naga Hills, Assam, and had taken 14 heads. Enquiry showed that 14 Nagas and Kukis of Layshi and Tikul in the Somra Tract had joined with Matong to attack Puta in unadministered territory. Prompt action was taken by the Deputy Commissioner, Upper Chindwin, and the parties responsible for the raid in the Somra Tract were punished. With this exception the tribesmen have behaved well and have carried out the usual repairs on roads. The cart road which is being constructed between Kalewa and Kalemyo has attracted a large number of coolies from the Chin Hills. There have been no frontier incidents between the Chin Hills and the Upper Chindwin during the year.

(1) The Chin Hills.

(The Chin Hills District: area approximately 8,550 square miles, population 110,079. The Pakokku Hill Tracts: area approximately 3,100 square miles, population 28,799. The Hill District of Arakan: area approximately 3,000 square miles, population 20,914. Tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpun Districts.)

7. The Deputy Commissioner again visited the Matu area of the Hill District of Arakan which it is proposed to bring within the Chin Hills

District and the boundary between the two districts was defined and demarcated. The conduct and behaviour of the Matus was very good. The Deputy Commissioner also paid a short visit to a portion of the new area of the Pakôkku Hill Tracts and collected outstanding tribute from the villages visited. The usual annual border meetings with officers from the Lushai and Manipur Hills were held. The Superintendent, Pakôkku Hill Tracts and the Assistant Superintendent, Haka, demarcated the boundary between the Chin Hills and Pakôkku Hill Tracts. It is now reported that the villagers of Kranam and Kwenam in the new area of the Pakôkku Hill Tracts have pulled down some of the stone cairns erected by these officers. Very heavy rain fell in the month of June which did considerable damage to roads, bridges and crops. The demarcation of the new forest boundary was completed. There was very little crime of importance. A Chin of the Tiddim Subdivision was convicted for trafficking in forged notes. The health of the district was quite good on the whole. The Anglo-Vernacular school at Haka was closed down on the 31st March 1929. Three new village schools were opened in the district. Village communications were improved and the Chins constructed several wire suspension bridges at their own expense. The general conduct of the people has been very good. There were a few kidnapping cases in the pre-administered area but otherwise the border of the Hill District of Arakan was in order. As regards important crime, one murder case was reported. The rainfall was normal and evenly distributed and the people reaped bumper crops. The health of the people was good on the whole.

(iii) *The Kachin Hill Tracts.*

(*Tracts in the Myitkyna and Bhamo Districts.*)

8. An expedition headed by two Civil and two Military Police Officers and divided into two columns of 104 men each was again sent to the Triangle to investigate the conditions of slaves previously released, to assist them to establish themselves as free men and to investigate such other problems as might arise concerning them. The columns were well received everywhere and in addition to the check of the conditions of released slaves some useful work was done in connection with the investigation of unsettled feuds in the areas visited, and in impressing on the parties to avoid retaliation and to seek the assistance of Government officers to settle their differences. Fifteen unreleased slaves were found in the Triangle during the expedition and were released. The condition of slaves previously released was found to be on the whole satisfactory. There had been little exodus of the men released in the Triangle and as many as 22.5 per cent. of the released slaves were found continuing to live with their former masters. In the southern portion of the Triangle, which is distracted by the violence of blood feuds due to the Kumlaio faction, few of the released slaves have settled down in their own villages; but in the northern area rather less than half have done so.

An expedition of 104 rifles under a Military Police Assistant Commandant with an Assistant Superintendent as Civil Officer was also sent to the Hukawng Valley. The route followed by the column is much

the same as in the previous year. Two villagers, who had been reported to have carried out human sacrifice in 1927, were punished, and the occasion was taken for re-impressing on the other tribesmen the policy of Government. No fresh cases of human sacrifice in the Naga Hill Tracts visited by the column came to light. The ex-slaves released in previous years had no great grievances though it seems unlikely they will settle down comfortably until they are assured that our administration of the area has begun. There seems, however, no great danger now of a general exodus of released slaves from the Hukawng Valley which it was feared at one time might upset the economic conditions prevailing. Enquiries were continued into blood feuds and the tribesmen made to understand that they are not permitted to resort to violent measures. Measures have been put in train for peaceful settlement in due course.

A third column of 208 men was sent into the unadministered area of the Naga Hills under the influence of the Upper Chindwin District. A base was established at Lahe with one half of the column and the rest toured with the Civil Officer, Mr. H. J. Mitchell, through the villages addicted to human sacrifice as far as the Patkai and Sangpan Bum ranges. The areas in which human sacrifice is carried out have now been clearly ascertained as well as the areas from which the victims are generally brought. The villages engaged in the traffic as middlemen have also been ascertained. The column was received in a friendly manner everywhere except in Sogtang where a temporary show of force was necessary. Thirty-four slaves—potential victims of human sacrifice—were released and it is now clearly understood throughout the hills that the continuance of the practice of human sacrifice will bring upon the parties engaged in it condign punishment. Enquiries were made into the thefts of rails and tools from Ledo and Tirap in Assam. Enquiries were also made as to tribal feuds and as many as possible were settled.

The Sadon frontier of the Myitkyina District was more peaceful than in the preceding year when it was disturbed by armed robbers from China, and the administered Kachin Hill Tracts were quiet. A large number of illicit guns was seized in the hill tracts of Myitkyina during the year showing that the tribesmen had probably taken steps to procure weapons to defend themselves if the troublous conditions of the previous year had continued. The general condition of the people in the Kachin Hills was satisfactory though rats in some places destroyed and damaged crops. The Htawgaw Post was practically ruined by earthquakes and the bulk of the garrison of the Post has had to be shifted to Laukhaung near which efforts are being made to find a suitable site for a new permanent post.

In the Bhamo Hill Tracts the peace of the frontier was undisturbed. People suffered from plagues of rats and collections of tribute decreased. There was an epidemic of rinderpest which had not been completely dealt with by the end of the year.

The output of jade from the Myitkyina District was 110,599 viss as compared with 81,955 viss in the previous year, but the value fell from Rs. 2,84,490 to Rs. 2,40,717. Royalty paid to the jade licensee amounted to Rs. 94,830. The value of amber brought in was Rs. 4,100.

The sanctioned temporary increase in the Excise establishments for the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts were brought into effect during the

year and very large seizures of contraband opium were made, which thoroughly justified the increase. It is noticeable that both in the Myitkyina and Bhamo Districts a number of cases of poppy cultivation were brought to light. Suitable punishment was inflicted and the crops destroyed.

The cart road to Sumprabum is progressing slowly, as well as the cart road between Bhamo and Namkham. With the exception of main roads, the roads in the hill tracts for the most part are looked after by the Assistant Superintendents employing Kachin labour.

Education in the Kachin Hills is chiefly in the hands of the American Baptist and Roman Catholic Missions. Slow progress is maintained, but the smallness of the villages and the distance of one from the other make boarding grants necessary everywhere. The Roman Catholic Mission is now experimenting in concentrating its more advanced pupils in its school within the municipal limits.

The Agricultural Department is undertaking experiments in the Sinlunkaba subdivision in the way of interesting Kachins in tea and coffee cultivation for which the hills seem very suitable. Experiments are also being made with a short-lived paddy to ripen before the arrival of the autumn frosts, which are so disastrous to ordinary kinds of paddy.

Condition of the People.

9. The year was not as healthy as its predecessor. The provincial death rate worked out to 21.28 which is an increase of 1.73 above that of 1927 and 0.95 above the five-yearly average. There was an increase in the number of deaths from all the chief diseases. It was a particularly bad year for cholera. The tightness of money that prevailed towards the end of the previous year in consequence of the fall in the price of paddy continued throughout the year under report, and though chiefly felt in Lower Burma was also reflected in trade and prices in Upper Burma. The season in Lower Burma was unsatisfactory. Except in Akyab District the rice crop was light everywhere and it passed out of the hands of cultivators at prices lower than have been recorded in any year since the Rice Control was removed. In Upper Burma conditions were similar to those in Lower Burma, promising early rains which led to large areas being brought under the plough being followed in several districts by disappointing middle and late rains. The season was disappointing for sesamun and groundnut and the cotton crop was even worse than in the previous not very favourable season. The reported deaths of livestock from contagious diseases show a fall from 41,955 in the previous year to 25,639 during the year under report, the deaths from rinderpest falling from 38,385 to 22,061 of which Akyab District was responsible for 15,419 and Amherst for 2,861. Revenue was, on the whole, collected without much difficulty.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1929
 Report on the Land Records Administration of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1929.
 Report on the working of the Rangoon Development Trust for the year 1928-29.
 Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realisation of the Revenue.

10. There was no change during the year in the Land Revenue Law applicable to Upper and Lower Burma. Changes in the Law, Rules and Directions Amendments were made in Rules 29B and 29C under the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Act, and in Rules 55B and 55C under the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation to the effect that a Deputy Commissioner should consult the Deputy Director of Agriculture, or, if he is not available, the Divisional Forest Officer, in declaring any land to be unsuited for the growth of rubber trees, or in resuming any land for failure by the grantee of any specified conditions of the grant. Lower Burma Land Revenue Rule 123 and Upper Burma Land Revenue Rule 190 were amended prescribing revised rates of expenses for witnesses or persons required to attend before Revenue Officers consequent on the issue of the new Travelling Allowance Rules. Necessary amendments were made in the Rules under the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation in consequence of the abolition of the class distinction of Assistant Collectors by Burma Act III of 1925. A few minor additions and alterations were also made in the Land Revenue Directions. There was no change either in the Lower Burma Town and Village Lands Act, 1898, and Rules thereunder, or in the Burma Town and Village Lands Directions, 1913.

In connection with fisheries the only important change was an amendment to Rule 45, whereby the power of Commissioners to sanction the use of brushwood lures in leased fisheries is no longer confined to Upper Burma. A footnote was added to Direction 16 of the Burma Mineral Concessions Manual requiring the Indemnity Bonds for prospecting in reserved forests to be kept by the Collector in the bond box in the Treasury strong room. The rules under the Burma Oilfields Manual were further stiffened up to give the Warden more control over the various operations incidental to the production of oil.

11. The land revenue demand, excluding the amount credited to cess and irrigation, was Rs. 343'98 *lakhs*, an increase of Rs. 5'65 *lakhs* over the previous year. New settlement rates of revenue were introduced in parts of the Pyapôn, Yamethin and Katha Districts where the demand increased by over Rs. 0'70 *lakh*, Rs. 1'18 *lakhs* and Rs. 0'77 *lakh*, respectively. The total amount remitted during the year amounted to Rs. 9'44 *lakhs* against Rs. 8'46 *lakhs* in the previous year. The total collections of land revenue, including arrears, amounted to Rs. 335'02 *lakhs*, or Rs. 5'73 *lakhs* more than in the preceding year. The outstandings at the end of the year were Rs. 2'14 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 2'92 *lakhs* in the previous year.

12. The amount of revenue for the recovery of which processes were issued was Rs. 38'26 *lakhs* against Rs. 19'79 *lakhs* in the preceding year, and the amount collected by recovery proceedings was Rs. 10'80 *lakhs*. The number of persons arrested increased from 473 to 568, and 24 persons were committed to jail against 8 in the previous year. Sales of both moveable and immoveable properties and issue of notices and warrants of attachment of property increased, but warrants of arrest issued decreased from 2,925 to 2,637. In Maubin District 1,060 warrants of attachment of immoveable property were issued, and in Tharrawaddy District 112 persons were arrested and sales of moveable property numbered 259.

Surveys.

13. In addition to the Computing and Tidal Party there were 5 parties of the Survey of India working in Burma during the year. No. 21, the Forest Party, carried out 116'7 linear miles of forest boundary theodolite traversing and 98'3 linear miles of tie lines in the Thawun and Thaingdut reserves of the Upper Chindwin Forest Division. In the Katha Forest Division an area of 64'18 square miles was surveyed on the four-inch scale in the Nampamaung, Nanpe, Pile Extension IV and Gahe reserves, and 4'75 square miles of unclassed forests adjoining the reserves. In the Mansi Forest Division an area of 166'69 square miles was surveyed on the four-inch scale in the Nansa, Nankyin, Nankadin, Chaunggyubya and Nantainggin reserves, and 0'08 square mile of unclassed forest adjoining the Nantainggin reserve. Topographical survey operations were continued by No. 11 Party in the Pegu and Insein Districts and extended into the Hanthawaddy and Rangoon City Districts. The total area surveyed, mostly on the one-inch scale, was 3,014 square miles. This included Rangoon and environs which was surveyed on the four-inch scale. For the detailed survey next field season about 3,360 square miles were traversed in the Bassein, Hanthawaddy, Insein, Maubin, Myaungmya and Pyapôn Districts. Topographical operations were continued by No. 10 Party and 2,527 square miles were surveyed on the one-inch scale in the Sandoway, Henzada, Prome, Thayetmyo and Tharawaddy Districts. About 1,543 square miles were surveyed on the half-inch scale in the Naga Hills and the Kachin Triangle, and 327 square miles of original four-inch

survey on payment for the Public Works Department were carried out in Henzada District. No. 17 Party (levelling) carried out 246 miles of secondary levelling and 1,361 miles of tertiary levelling. No. 15 Party was engaged in principal triangulation of Chittagong series and Mong Hsat series. Tidal observations were discontinued at Pilakat or Deserter's Creek and Bassein but are being continued at Rangoon. Survey sheets published during the year numbered 24 on a one-inch scale, 8 on a half-inch scale, and 3 on a quarter-inch scale, some of which included portions of adjacent countries.

14 The Special Survey Party was employed on resurveys of rural *kwns* in Pegu, Hanthawaddy, Shwebo, Lower Chindwin, and Meiktila Districts. It also carried out original surveys in unsurveyed tracts of Pegu and Sandoway. Original traverse and cadastral surveys dealt with by the Party in rural areas were 85 and 47 square miles, respectively. Under resurveys 234 square miles were traversed and 233 square miles cadastrally surveyed. The local staff and the Special Survey Party together accounted for 583 square miles of traverse in resurveys, 1,085 square miles of cadastral resurvey and 467 square miles of cadastral revision survey. The local staff carried out original traverse over 14 square miles in the Yamèthun District and original cadastral surveys over 14 square miles in the Yamèthun and Thatôn Districts. The decrease in the area surveyed is due to the ever lessening amount of land which remains for survey after the yearly extensions of Supplementary Survey.

15. The local staff traversed 4.67 square miles of town areas in the Akyab, Myaungmya, Pyapôn and Mergui Districts, and carried out cadastral survey over an area amounting to 4.93 square miles in these districts and in Henzada and Yamèthun. The number of grants and leases surveyed was 3,553 with a total area of 15,567 acres, the corresponding figures for last year were 3,475 and 35,044. The bulk of the work fell in the Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui Districts. The reduction in the area is attributed to a slump in the rubber market and to the more accessible areas having been taken up in the past. With the reduction of work the temporary potta establishment in Mergui District was reduced from seven last year to four this year.

Settlements.

16. During the year under review, settlement operations were carried on in the Upper Chindwin, Lower Chindwin, Myitkyina, Pakôkku, Maubin and Thatôn Districts. The Upper Chindwin, Myitkyina, and Maubin settlement operations were completed in October 1928. Preliminary operations were conducted in the Hanthawaddy District during March and April 1929. A small area of 31 *kwns* in the Pegu District, which has reformed after previous erosion by the sea, was reclassified under the direction of the Deputy Commissioner, Pegu, but the rates notified at last settlement continued to be applied.

17. New settlement rates were notified during the year in certain *kwins* in the Daik-u, Pegu and Thanatpin Townships of the Pegu District resulting in an increase of Rs. 2,246 in land revenue. Some minor changes in the land revenue demand were made in the Shwebo and Kyaukse Districts. The expenditure on the four settlement parties during the year was Rs. 2,92,955.

Land Records.

18. The gross rural area under Supplementary Survey, exclusive of Government Estates, decreased by 260,758 acres to 31,674,869 acres. The decrease in the rural area dealt with by the local staff was due partly to the transfer of 13,824 acres, the Ondok Forest Reserve, from the Katha District to Mongmut State and partly to the exclusion from the statistics of waste land grants in the Akyab District which were erroneously included in previous years. In spite of the above reduction the occupied rural area under Supplementary Survey has risen by 29,015 acres, due to the application of Supplementary Survey in the Thatôn District and to the extension of cultivation in Lower Burma districts. The cultivated and assessed areas under Supplementary Survey have risen by 134,107 and 265,264 acres, respectively, due to a favourable season in the Pakôkku, Yamèthin and Lower Chindwin Districts and in the un-irrigated portion of Shwebo District. The residential urban area has risen by 2,590 acres, due principally to reclassification of urban areas in Akyab District and partly to the inclusion of new monasteries in Prome Town which were erroneously omitted in last year's figures. The decrease in the cultivated and assessed urban area is due to the transfer of Mandalay Cantonment area to the Military Authorities for assessment and collection of revenue.

19. The total cost of the Land Records Department fell from 25'12 *lakhs* to 25'09 *lakhs*. The reduction is due to the gradual reduction of staff in Lower Burma districts and to a smaller programme of surveys. The average percentage of the cost of Supplementary Survey to the total assessment rose from 6'13 to 6'21 due to the reduction in the area dealt with by the Land Records staff by the exclusion of waste land grants and large areas under lump sum assessment.

20. Six officers of the Indian Civil Service, two of the Burma Frontier Service, three of the Burma Civil Service, 38 of the Subordinate Civil Service and one from the Co-operative Societies Department were trained in Land Records work; 9 probationers of the Land Records service were also under training during the year.

Survey Schools.—Besides the Central Survey School attached to the Special Survey Party at Shwebo, schools were maintained at Prome, Kyaukse, Moulmein and Minbu, as in the preceding year. The number of applications for admission was normal and 106 applicants were admitted out of 126, and of these, 93 completed the course of study and

attended the practical and oral examination. The percentage of boys possessing seventh standard or higher qualifications was 91 as against 74 in the previous year. Of the 93 pupils presented, 58 or 62 *per cent.* passed the examination in surveying, the best results were again attained by the Shwabo survey school. Forty-eight of the 93 pupils remaining at the close of the year were paying fees. The conduct of the pupils was generally satisfactory. The expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 17,576 as against Rs. 15,932 in the preceding year. Sixty-five certificates were granted to apprentices as against 82 in the previous year and systematic training was given to them. Three inspectors (including one from the Mandalay Canal staff) and 17 surveyors were given training in advanced surveying with the Special Survey Party.

21. The total area of land sold during the year was 506,162 acres, which represents a decrease of 19,235 acres as compared with the previous year. The more important decreases were reported from the Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Hanthawaddy and Thabon Districts. With few exceptions there was an increase in most Upper Burma districts. Of the total increase amounting to 18,464 acres Lower Chindwin was responsible for 9,779 acres.

Waste Lands

22. No new lands were allotted in the year under review. The assessed area increased from 157,681 acres to 160,948 acres. In the Yandoon area out of a cultivated area of 22,875 acres, 17,308 were assessed and out of the amount assessed a sum of Rs. 13,008 was remitted on account of the pooriness of the outturns. Small remissions were made in other areas. The rent and revenue demand, excluding amounts remitted, in respect of areas in the direct charge of the Administrator of Government Estates was Rs. 8,01,894 and collections up to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 7,93,889. Rents were collected earlier than in the previous year but owing to the low prices offering for paddy and the general tightness of the money market difficulty was experienced in their collection. In the Society area 114 tenants were expelled by the societies for failure to pay their dues, and in the Estate areas many unsubstantial tenants had to give place to tenants of a better type. In the case of the Sittang colonies the payments of the instalments of Government loans were, on the whole, satisfactory, but two societies defaulted. In the Yandoon area the repayments were again affected by the floods. Repayment of Rs. 58,830 was suspended and it will be necessary to suspend repayment of a further Rs. 36,389. In Pyuntaza one society has paid off its outstandings to Government, and another repaid its instalment and interest due in full. The chances of recovering the loans from the other two societies which have advances to repay are remote. In Myitkyina Rs. 43,047 (principal) and Rs. 4,972 (interest) were written off. This area is recovering from the effects of two disastrous years. The repayments in the Shwebangon area were on the whole good. Two tanks costing Rs. 400 each were dug in the Yandoon area and the Tawku Reserve. Rs. 1,000 was spent on the completion of a bund in the Sittang North Government Estate.

23. The total area granted or leased for cultivation increased from 20,909 acres to 22,574 acres. An area of 18,98'21 acres was granted for rubber cultivation in the Thaton District, 2,280'36 acres in the Amherst District, 1,342'31 acres in the Tavoy District, and 6,787'41 acres in the Mergui District. In the Amherst District 134'73 acres were granted for cocoanut cultivation.

24. The area granted free of revenue for religious and public purposes increased from 174'46 acres and 18'04 acres to 182'82 acres and 25'53 acres respectively. The area granted or leased to village headmen in order to supplement their remuneration also increased by 1,748'08 acres, the increase being chiefly in the Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Insein, Toungoo, Minbu and Mandalay Districts. The total value of assignments of land revenue added during the year was Rs. 1,070-7-1. There were no grants of special interest or importance

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

25 The Rangoon Development Trust continued to administer the Rangoon Government Estate on behalf of Government. On the 31st March 1929 the total area was 3,380 acres being an increase of 332 acres. The main reason for the increase is that the Kokine Estate is now included in the Government Estate. The area of the Kokine Estate is 440'205 acres. The increase is also due to the vesting in the Trust of 50'860 acres of the Dalla-Twante Road. The chief decreases are due to the sale of 90'707 acres on the banks of the Pegu River to the Port Commissioners and the loss by erosion of 40'310 acres in the same area. An area of 16'925 acres was handed over to the Corporation for roads and backdrainage spaces. The lease of cultivation rights brought in a revenue of Rs. 31,500. Rent collections from the Government Estate advanced from Rs. 14'85 *lakhs* to Rs. 15'47 *lakhs*. There was a considerable decrease in the number of leases issued. During the year 738 long-term leases and 158 short-term leases were issued against 1,387 and 108, respectively, in 1927-28. The reason for the decrease is that no new settlements were opened for occupation in the course of the year. An account of the financial position of the Government Estate will be found in paragraph 147 below.

26 The Government Estates under the control of the Administrator of Government Estates are dealt with in paragraph 22. There are no Court of Wards Estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

27. The total occupied area under supplementary survey increased from 18,520,436 acres to 18,546,072 acres during the year under report, there being an increase of 46,511 acres in Lower Burma and a decrease of 20,875 acres in Upper Burma. The total area of the province occupied

by agriculturists decreased by 82,323 acres, of which 50,872 were reported from Lower Burma and 31,451 from Upper Burma. The proportion of land in the hands of non-agriculturists increased in Lower Burma from 27'86 *per cent* to 28'65 *per cent*. and in Upper Burma from 9'10 *per cent*. to 9'26 *per cent*. For the province as a whole the percentage has increased from 19 84 to 20 40. The area held by resident non-agriculturists has increased by 11,214 acres in Lower Burma but decreased in Upper Burma by 3,384 acres. The holdings of non-resident non-agriculturists have increased by 86,169 acres in Lower Burma and by 13,960 acres in Upper Burma. The area let to tenants in the whole province increased during the year from 6,481,608 acres to 6,712,160 acres. The more important variations in the area let at full fixed rents are as follows : Akyab (—11,863), Pegu (+41,946), Tharrawaddy (+24,592), Bassein (+15,823), Myaungmya (+49,776) and Ma-ubin (+25,987). In Upper Burma there was an appreciable increase of 53,367 acres in land let on share or partnership rates, the districts chiefly responsible for this being Minbu (6,141), Magwe (7,781), Pakôkku (23,922), Shwebo (7,606), and Lower Chindwin (7,666). The area let at privileged rates or rent free decreased by 81,089 acres in Lower Burma and increased by 13,396 acres in Upper Burma.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1928.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1928.
Returns showing the results of measures adopted in Burma with a view to exterminating Wild Animals and Venomous Snakes during the year 1928.
Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1928.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1928
Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1928.
Report on the Administration of the Registration Department in Burma during the three years 1926 to 1928.
Report on the Working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1928-29
Statistics of District Councils and Deputy Commissioners' Local Funds in Burma for the year 1928-29
Report on the Municipal Administration of the City of Rangoon for the year 1928-29
Statistics of Municipalities (except Rangoon) and Notified Areas in Burma for the year 1928-29.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from 1st April 1928 to 31st March 1929
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1928-29, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1928-29.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes I, III and IV.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1928-29.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the legislative authority of the province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 inclusive of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22.

Course of Legislation.

28. This Report is for the period from the 1st September 1928 to the 31st August 1929. The Indian Stamp (Burma Amendment) Bill, 1928 and the Burma Financial Commissioners' Bill, 1928, referred to in last year's report, passed into law during the period under review as Burma Acts XIII and XIV, respectively, of 1928. The former was enacted so as to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, in its application to Burma by extending the period of limitation for presentation of an instrument executed in British India outside Burma, under the provisions of clause (a) of the proviso to section 32 of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (II of 1899), from one month to three months after its execution. The latter was enacted so as to consolidate and amend the law relating to the appointment of Financial Commissioners in Burma and for the definition of their functions and to provide for the appointment of two Financial Commissioners of equal status with concurrent powers instead of a Financial Commissioner with an Additional Financial Commissioner.

The following six Bills were introduced but none of them passed into law, during the period under review—(1) The Rangoon Small Cause Court (Amendment) Bill, 1929; (2) The Burma Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1929; (3) The Wild Birds and Animals Protection (Burma Amendment) Bill, 1929, (4) The Burma Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Bill, 1929, (5) The Burma Rural Self-Government (Amendment) Bill 1929; and (6) The Prevention of Crime (Young Offenders) Bill, 1929.

29. The undermentioned Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Indian Legislature during the period under review.—

General Acts of 1928.

- XIII. The Indian Mines (Amendment) Act, 1928.
- XIV. The Indian Succession (Amendment) Act, 1928.
- XV. The Indian Trade Unions (Amendment) Act, 1928.
- XVI. The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1928.
- XVII. The Match Industry (Protection) Act, 1928.
- XVIII. The Repealing and Amending Act, 1928.
- XX. The Indian Insurance Companies Act, 1928.
- XXI. The Indian Succession (Second Amendment) Act, 1928.

General Acts of 1929.

- I. The Indian Limitation (Amendment) Act, 1929.
- II. The Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Act, 1929.
- III. The Presidency-towns Insolvency (Amendment) Act, 1929.
- IV. The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1929.
- V. The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1929.
- VI. The Indian Finance Act, 1929.
- VII. The Trades Disputes Act, 1929.

All the above Acts came into force during the period under review with the exception of Act XIII of 1928 and Act VII of 1929. In the case of the former, sections 1 and 7 came into force during the period under review and the remaining provisions are to come into force on the 7th April 1930.

30 Only one Ordinance affecting Burma, namely, the Public Safety Ordinance, 1929, (Ordinance No. 1 of 1929) was made and promulgated by the Governor-General under section 72 of the Government of India Act, during the period under review

Ordinances affecting
Burma.

31. No Regulation affecting Burma was enacted during the period under review

Regulations affecting
Burma

32. The Burma Excise (Amendment) Act, 1925, was extended to those areas in the Federated Shan States, which have been or may hereafter be notified under section 210 of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, and to those areas in the Federated Shan States which are now or may hereafter be occupied by the Burma Railways, and also to the Myelat in the Federated Shan States. The Indian Petroleum Act, 1899, and the rules made thereunder and the Burma Military Police Act, 1928, were extended to the Federated Shan States. The Land Acquisition Act, 1894, the Burma Midwives and Nurses Act, 1922, sections, 22, 26 and 37 to 46 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889, with certain modifications and the Indian Succession Act, 1925, with certain modifications were extended to the civil station of Loilem in the State of Laihka in the Southern Shan States. The Indian Tolls Act, 1851, and the Indian Tolls Act, 1864, with the Schedule annexed to the latter Act modified, were extended to the State of Kengtung in the Southern Shan States

Extension of Enactments
to Shan States

Police.

33. A revision of the strength of nearly every district force was sanctioned by Government during the year but the only district reorganisation actually carried out in 1928 was in Pegu. Other important administrative changes during the year included (1) the permanent entertainment of 4 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 5 Inspectors of Police, 30 Sub-Inspectors of Police and 39 Constables for the Flying Squads of the Southern, Northern and Western Ranges, in place of the temporary Flying Squads sanctioned; (2) the conversion of the temporary appointment of Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western, into a permanent one; (3) the abolition of the appointment of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Administration, and the creation of an appointment of District Superintendent of Police carrying with it the official designation of Assistant Inspector-General of Police; and (4) the substitution of 34 (2 temporary) Subdivisional Police Officers in place of 35 District Assistants and Extra District Assistants. Four new Police Stations (one temporary) were opened and three outposts closed during the year. The sanctioned strength of the police force excluding gazetted officers, rose from 2,187 officers and 11,182 men in 1927 to 2,228 officers and 11,253 men in 1928, though the actual strength at the end of the year fell short of this by 4 officers and 249 men. The majority of districts reported no difficulty in obtaining recruits of a good type. Admissions to hospital represented 40 *per cent* of the actual strength of the force, as compared with 38 *per cent* in the

Civil Police. Strength
and Cost

previous year. The cost of the Civil Police Force debitable to Provincial Revenues was Rs 114'85 *lakhs*, which is a little above that of the previous year

34. During the year 12 officers and 149 men were removed or dismissed departmentally as compared with 13 and 132 in 1927. Magisterial punishments were awarded to 8 officers and 148 men as compared with 15 and 173 in 1927, and of these 7 officers and 134 men were removed or dismissed as against 9 and 150 in 1927. The number of other punishments awarded to officers and men was 268 and 1,55, respectively, as compared with 221 and 797 in 1927. Resignations increased from 373 to 418 but desertions decreased from 87 to 77. Nearly all officers, from Commissioners downwards, comment on the improvement in the discipline and conduct of the force. The number of rewards granted to members of the force during the year was 984 by magistrates and 1,654 departmentally, compared with 1,217 and 1,918 in 1927. The decrease in departmental rewards is due to the exercise of greater discrimination than formerly. At the Provincial Police Training School 88 cadets appeared for the June examination and only two failed, the average number of marks obtained being 61 *per cent.* of the total. In the December examinations 99 sat and two failed, the average number of marks being 64 *per cent.* These results are not as good as those in 1927 and are attributed by the Principal to a higher standard of marking, changes in the instructional staff and illness among the cadets. On the whole, the discipline of the school was good. The number of constables, other than recruits, sent to Training Depôts increased from 993 to 1,870. The number of recruits who were trained at Training Depôts was 1,491 compared with 1,381 in 1927. Great attention is paid to the training of recruits and everything is done to make the courses interesting. The idea of a Central School for Burmese constables was dropped. The number of officers who went through the annual revolver course was 1,602, compared with 1,685 in 1927, the figure of merit obtained being 96'38 compared with 90'81. The annual musketry course was fired by 8,151 men compared with 6,817 in 1927. "First Aid" classes were attended by 278 officers and men compared with 318 in 1927. Of these 156 sat for the examination and 136 passed. Attention continued to be paid to athletics. Co-operative credit societies were instituted in seven more districts and at the end of the year there were 25 societies with a membership of 6,805. The aggregate share capital increased from Rs 1,94,337 to Rs. 3,15,645.

35. The housing question becomes more critical year by year. In some districts vast improvements have been made but construction does not keep pace with requirements. No less than Rs. 1'36 *lakhs* was spent on hiring houses. The following major works were completed during the year.—(1) a defensible police station and treasure vault at Yegyí, Bassein District (Rs 32,300); (2) a non-defensible police station at Phado, Pegu District (Rs 12,925); (3) a new site for the Police Training Depôt at Mergui (Rs. 19,252); (4) quarters for the Police Headquarters Assistant, Mergui (Rs. 20,464); (5) an armed police station at Upper Yebyu, Tavoy District (Rs. 26,846,) and (6) a police station at Danubyu, Ma-ubin District (Rs. 28,980).

36. The number of true cases of cognizable crime dealt with by Police and Magistrates during the year was 54,867 cases as compared with 51,881 in 1927. Of the increase of 2,986 cases, 1,404 fell under classes I to V and 1,582 under class VI. The increase under class I is due to increases under offences relating to coin (24) and notes (30). There was an increase of 711 to 7,935 under class II (serious offences against the person), the main increases being under murder (from 801 to 899), grievous hurt (2,065 to 2,258), hurt (2,102 to 2,229) and kidnapping (401 to 511). Thus crimes of violence show a big increase. Under class III (serious offences against property) there was an increase of 376 to 9,125. The main increase was under housebreaking (from 5,775 to 6,041). Under class IV (minor offences against the person) there was a decrease of 13 to 519 due to fewer cases under wrongful restraint and confinement. Under class V (minor offences against property) there was an increase of 278 to 17,466: the increase fell mainly under cattle theft the number of which increased by 615 to 4,189. Ordinary theft decreased by 128 to 9,219 and criminal trespass by 167 to 2,014. The total number of true cases of important crime was 1,690 as compared with 1,563 in 1927, an increase of 127 cases. There was a slight decrease in the number of important crimes in which firearms were used, the number being 330 compared with 337 in 1927.

37. The percentage of convictions in true cases of important crime decreased from 37 to 32, variations under individual heads of crime are as follows :—

Working of the Police

Murder 27 as against 30 in 1927.

Dacoity 40 as against 43 in 1927.

Robbery 37 as against 48 in 1927.

Cattle theft 45 (no change)

Ordinary theft 54 as against 53 in 1927

Results are not as good as last year when a high mark was reached in the detection of important crime. The percentage of convictions to true cases investigated was 63, as in the previous year. Of cases sent up for trial, 82 *per cent.* ended in convictions as compared with 84 *per cent.* in 1927. In classes I to V the percentage of cases refused investigation under section 157 (1)(b), Criminal Procedure Code, was 8 *per cent.* the same as in 1927. Out of 70,970 cases investigated 4,148 were declared to be false, as compared with 4,171 in 1927. The number of compounded cases under classes I to V was 1,512 as compared with 1,681 in 1927. Of these, 720 were under hurt or grievous hurt. The number of cattle stolen was 6,718 of which 3,754 were recovered as compared with 5,817 and 3,102, respectively, in 1927. The total value of property stolen fell from Rs. 31 28 *lakhs* to Rs. 30 39 *lakhs*, but the property recovered increased from Rs. 6 03 *lakhs* to Rs. 7 02 *lakhs*. The number of persons arrested by the Police for cognisable offences was 68,208, of whom 63,749 were tried and 39,089 convicted. The number of persons evading arrest at the end of the year was 930. During the year there were 36 escapes from Civil Police custody, 9 from the Military Police and 22 from villagers, as compared with 41, 17 and 3, respectively, in 1927. Of the 67 prisoners concerned in these escapes 41 were recaptured before the end of the year. The majority of officers pay a handsome tribute to the great assistance

rendered them by headmen in the detection and prevention of crime. During the year 1,391 headmen, 131 ten-house *gaungs* and 2,583 villagers received rewards.

38. Tharrawaddy was in the throes of political disorder at the beginning of 1928 which had a bad effect on important Incidents, the criminal population with the result that important crime went up with a bound, but as the agitation subsided the police were able to tackle the crime situation and important crime was well in hand at the close of the year. Prome and Henzada were badly affected by the depredations of the Tharrawaddy dacoits. In Meiktila the capture of Nga Tun Tin and other dacoits and the application of the Criminal Tribes Act had a good effect. Hanthawaddy was troubled by a gang which committed four dacoities in that district and four in Ma-ubin. But two members of the gang were shot dead by a headman and the whole of the gang was ultimately accounted for. Several other districts besides Hanthawaddy were exploited by gangs. One, headed by a Karen *ex*-lieutenant named Saw Maung Ni *alias* "Brandy" committed two dacoities in Bassein and one in Myaungmya, but was ultimately captured by a headman. Three gangs of river dacoits responsible for many dacoities in Myaungmya and another gang led by Nga Po U were brought to book. Thaton and Amherst Districts were ravaged by a gang headed by one Nga Than who had escaped from jail. All the members of this gang, who were responsible for 5 dacoities, 8 robberies and several rape cases, were accounted for. Some were shot by the Thaton police while Nga Than himself was shot by a *pôngyn*. In Magwe ticket-of-leave convicts working on the roads were responsible for three dacoities and one robbery but were caught and convicted.

39. The number of prosecutions under the Excise Act increased from 5,552 in 1927 to 6,080 in the year under report. Of these cases the Excise Department was responsible for 3,975, the Police for 1,372 and headmen and others for 733, as compared with 3,540, 1,268 and 744, respectively, in 1927. There was increased activity of the Excise and the Police particularly the former. The percentage of convictions to cases dealt with fell from 91 to 88. Under the Opium Act 2,446 cases were dealt with compared with 2,616 in 1927. The percentage of convictions to cases dealt with fell from 93 to 91. There were 216 prosecutions under section 3 of the Opium Amendment Act as compared with 254 in 1927, and 173 or 80 *per cent.* were placed on security. The number of cases dealt with under the Gambling Act was 2,573, compared with 2,758 in 1927. The percentage of convictions to cases dealt with was 75 compared with 76 in 1927. There was a big drop from 163 to 100 in the number of professional gamblers who were prosecuted under the preventive sections of the Act. These figures compare very unfavourably with those of the previous year. Prosecutions under the Arms Act increased from 796 to 1,046 and the percentage of convictions to cases tried was 93 as compared with 95 in 1927. The number of important crimes in which firearms were used decreased slightly from 337 to 330.

40. The number of true non-cognisable cases increased by 2,647 from 40,824 to 43,471. This increase is mainly accounted for by the increased number of cases under the Motor Vehicles Act and is due to the rapidly increasing number of hired vehicles and private cars in the province.

41. The number of persons prosecuted under sections 109 and 110, Criminal Procedure Code, was 3,059 as compared with 2,977 in the previous year. Of these 2,388 were placed on security and 153 restricted under the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act in lieu of security. The number dealt with under section 7 of the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act was 338, of whom 315 were restricted as compared with 397 and 352, respectively, in 1927. One criminal tribe was notified under the Criminal Tribes Act. The Paukkaung Reformatory Settlement has had an excellent effect on crime but it has not been a financial success and steps are being taken to select a more suitable locality. A great deal of attention has been paid to the work of surveillance but although the staff are becoming more efficient there appears still to be room for improvement. At the end of 1927 there were 1,467 proclaimed offenders at large and 359 were proclaimed during the year. Of these 1,826 absconders, only 149 were arrested. Although there has been a slight improvement, the results are far from satisfactory.

The work of the three Finger Print Bureaux was carried out satisfactorily. The staffs at Insein and Chauk remained the same but that at Yenangyaung was reduced by two Sub-Inspectors of Police. At the end of the year there were 160,024 slips on record at Insein. The number of record slips rejected at Insein rose from 197 to 324, the percentage of rejections rising from 1 to 1.5. The number of search slips received was 9,350 and of these 2,399 were traced, the number found in districts other than their own being 1,904. Finger print experts gave evidence in 436 cases as against 422 in 1927. The total number of old offenders identified and reconvicted was 5,689 as compared with 5,954 in 1927. At the end of the year there were 2,170 name cards on record in the Crime Classification Bureau including 1,141 brought forward from the previous year. District Bureaux were abolished during the year and the whole crime classification system concentrated at Insein.

42. Punitive police forces were stationed during the year in the Tharrawaddy, Shwebo and Lower Chindwin Districts.

43. The sanctioned strength of the Railway Police remained unchanged at 72 officers and 403 men. There were 4 men short at the close of the year. There was no difficulty in obtaining recruits and the standard of education is becoming higher. There was again no case of desertion. On the whole, the conduct was fairly satisfactory. Housing accommodation was insufficient. The total length of railway line administered increased from 1,894 to 1,919 miles. The cost of the railway police rose from Rs. 3.88 lakhs to Rs. 4.07 lakhs. The number of true cases of all classes of cognisable crime rose from 6,121 to 6,543. The increase is mainly confined to housebreaking (30), ordinary theft (41) and public nuisances (342) and may be accounted for by the extension of the line.

unaccompanied by any corresponding increase in the strength of the force. The percentage of convictions rose from 77.87 to 81.91. Thefts in running goods trains show a decrease of 30 cases, while thefts from standing wagons and running passenger trains have increased by 41 and 2, respectively. The number of true cases of important crime was 26 as compared with 22 in 1927. Of these 7 were murders, 1 was a dacoity, 2 were robberies and 16 were deliberate attempts at train wrecking. The work of the surveillance staff showed a vast improvement. The number of absconders arrested during the year was 13.

44. The sanctioned strength of the Burma Military Police remained unaltered at 10,050. The actual strength at the end of the year was 9,958 against 9,835 at the end of the previous year. A total of 330 Indian recruits were enlisted during the year. Of these 148 were Sikhs, 113 Punjabi Mussalmans and 69 others. A Gurkha recruiting party was despatched to Nepal and enlisted 245 Gurkha recruits. In Burma 452 recruits were enlisted. These included 118 Burmans, 72 Karens, 68 Kachins, 48 Punjabi Mussalmans, 30 Gurkhas, 27 Sikhs and 89 others. During the recurrence of dacoities on the roads towards the Chinese frontier, temporary posts at Wachon and Kambaiti in the Fort Harrison area and Nahpaw, Pajao and Tingrawng in the Fort Morton area were established at the commencement of the open season. The establishment of these posts has stopped the dacoities. Two columns each consisting of 100 men under two British Officers left Myitkyina for the Triangle in December 1927 to complete the slave releasing operations there. No opposition was encountered. Another expedition of 116 men under a British Officer left in December 1927 for the Hukawng Valley in connection with the release of slaves and to enquire into the question of the Assam-Burma frontier. The columns returned in May 1928 having carried out their duties successfully. Two other columns proceeded to the Naga Hills in January 1928 in connection with the suppression of human sacrifice in certain villages in the Hainye Naga country and to establish friendly relations with the powerful Naga Village of Ponyo Nankum. The two columns returned in March 1928, the objects of the expedition having been carried out. Valuable assistance was rendered at Minbu, Tharrawaddy and certain other districts in Lower Burma in connection with the political agitation arising from the non-payment of capitation-tax. The total cost of the Burma Military Police was Rs. 66.10 lakhs as compared with 65.74 lakhs in 1927. Seventy-four men died and 337 men were invalided, compared with 77 and 404 respectively in 1927; 235 were sent on sick leave and 8,487 were admitted to hospital compared with 231 and 8,423, respectively. Malaria was the predominant ailment. The total number of casualties fell from 877 to 855. The number of resignations was 236 against 221 and desertions numbered 98 against 81 in 1927. The chief offenders as far as desertions are concerned are Burmans, Karens and Kachins who were responsible for 43, 25 and 7 desertions, respectively, or 75 out of a total of 98. The conduct of the force as reflected in the number of punishments inflicted showed no appreciable change. The general tone and efficiency were satisfactorily maintained and attention continued to be paid to the improvement of the standard of education. The annual musketry course was fired by 7,411 trained soldiers, and 819 recruits fired their recruits' course.

45. The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police at the end of the year was six Imperial and three Provincial gazetted officers, 146 non-gazetted officers and 1,360 men. The non-gazetted officers include 12 European Sergeants employed wholly on Port duties and paid for by the Port Commissioners, but who for some obscure reason have been excluded from previous reports

The temporary force of 40 constables sanctioned in 1926 for day light patrols in the business area of the city was discontinued during the year and this accounts for the decrease in the number of men from 1,400 to 1,360.

The Motor Vehicles Department was strengthened by the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent of Police (Imperial Service) to superintend its working, and by an increase in the staff of four Sub-Inspectors and two European Sergeants. The net cost of the force after deducting recoveries was Rs. 12'97 *lakhs* as against Rs. 13'03 *lakhs* in 1927.

The general conduct of the force was very satisfactory. Two officers and 12 men were dismissed or removed, compared with one officer and 18 men in 1927. Departmental major punishments, other than removal or dismissal, were awarded to 5 officers and 29 men, as against 6 officers and 23 men in 1927. Rewards were granted to 313 officers and 600 men. The number of resignations was 21 compared with 26 and the desertions numbered 7, the same as in 1927. One officer and 10 men died during the year, being the same as in 1927, but the number treated in hospital fell from 350 to 220. A good type of recruit is obtainable and applications for enlistment are far in excess of requirements. No new major works were undertaken during the year. The only event of importance during the year from the police point of view was the Viceregal visit. A new Traffic Advisory Board under the presidency of the Commissioner of the Rangoon Corporation was appointed to advise on all matters in connection with traffic control and regulation. Excluding nuisances and offences against special and local laws, the Rangoon Town Police dealt with 2,146 true cases of cognizable crime compared with 2,139 in 1927. Cases under class II (serious offences against the person) increased from 294 to 346. Cases of murder and culpable homicide declined from 18 to 14 but cases of grievous hurt increased from 86 to 92. Cases under class III (serious offences against property) decreased from 382 to 346, due to a decrease under house-trespass and housebreaking from 334 to 296. There were 35 robberies as against 37 in 1927. Of the true cases investigated, 1,276 or 59 *per cent.* ended in conviction, compared with 56 *per cent.* in 1927. The total value of stolen property decreased from Rs. 4'58 *lakhs* to Rs. 2'68 *lakhs* and recoveries amounted to 17 *per cent.* the same as in 1927. The pawnshop staffs brought to light 76 cases which ended in conviction. The number of prosecutions under the Excise Act increased from 719 to 1,195 those by the Police increasing from 329 to 786 and those by the Excise and Customs Department from 390 to 409. For the second year in succession the number instituted by the Police has been more than doubled, the increased activity being due to the continuance of the campaign against the sale of ganja. Seizures of ganja increased from 40,000 tolas to 112,000 tolas, the Excise Department being responsible for about 110,000 tolas. The number of prosecutions under the Opium Act increased from 152 to 265 and the

seizures from 124,000 tolas to 178,000 tolas. Under the cognizable sections of the Gambling Act there were 192 cases involving 503 persons, compared with 131 cases involving 419 persons in 1927. Action was taken under the Suppression of Brothels Act against 462 persons as against 226 in 1927. Prosecutions for bad livelihood were taken against 288 persons, and 224 or 78 *per cent* were ordered to furnish security. Under the Foreigners Act 85 undesirable Chinese subjects were deported, and under the Expulsion of Offenders Act 37 criminals were expelled. The number of cases of non-cognizable crime decreased from 29,415 to 27,928. The total number of deaths due to accidents in which motor vehicles were concerned decreased from 51 to 32. The number of new motor vehicles registered during the year was 3,310, compared with 3,115 in 1927. The number of juveniles who were convicted of offences decreased from 126 to 92.

46. Except in Minbu, Thairawaddy and a few other districts in Lower Burma where there was trouble over the payment of capitation-tax political agitation does not appear to have interfered to any serious extent with village administration. Reports on village committees were on the whole satisfactory. The number of village committees or headmen exercising special criminal and civil powers increased from 3,666 and 3,907, respectively, at the end of 1927 to 3,898 and 4,134 at the end of 1928. The total amount of fines inflicted increased from Rs. 1'08 *lakhs* to Rs. 1'29 *lakhs*. As the result of further amalgamations the total number of headmen decreased from 13,697 to 13,379. The average commission paid to headmen not subordinate to circle headmen and drawing full commission increased slightly from Rs. 219 to Rs. 224. The number of headmen rewarded decreased from 3,116 to 2,886 and those punished decreased from 372 to 344. Revenue work was on the whole well done except in the Hill District of Arakan where the police had to help in the collection. In this district the Burma Village Act does not appear to work satisfactorily and steps have been taken to introduce the Chin Hills Regulation in its place. Relations between headmen and the police remained cordial and in many cases headmen rendered valuable assistance to the Police. The hermit, Bandaka, who was responsible for the disturbances in the Shwebo District in 1927 was arrested in the Lower Chindwin district during the year and conditions in Shwebo and the Lower Chindwin returned to normal. Forty village-tracts were fined as against 41 in 1927, but the amount of fines increased from Rs. 18,360 to Rs. 21,062, of which nearly two-thirds was from districts in the Pegu Division. On the whole little interest was shown by headmen in vital statistics, sanitation or excise matters.

47. There was an increase from 1,258 to 1,322 in the number of persons killed by wild animals and snakes. The last were, as usual, responsible for practically the whole of the mortality; for the rest, tigers killed 17 (as against 34 in 1927), elephants 6, leopards 2, crocodiles 2, and a wild dog 1. The total amount of rewards paid increased from Rs. 48,545 to Rs. 53,355. No reward was paid for the destruction of snakes. The animals killed included 1,739 bears, 1,291 leopards, 482 tigers and 324 wild dogs.

Criminal Justice.

48. Seven criminal sessions of the High Court were held in 1928 ; the total number of cases was 29 all of which were decided, the average duration being 58 days against 50 in 1927. The increase was due to the long duration of six defamation cases. The number of persons under trial was 39, of whom 18 or only 46 *per cent.* were convicted, which is hardly satisfactory. There were 11 murder cases, involving 15 persons of whom 4 were convicted, 3 being sentenced to death. There were 4 cases, involving 9 persons, of robbery and dacoity, of whom 3 were convicted. The number of appeals which came before the Court was 2,049 as against 2,124 in 1927. The number of appeals against convictions was 2,032, the number of persons involved being 2,297. The appeals of 1,015 persons were rejected, the sentences of 579 were confirmed and in the case of 553 the sentences were altered or reversed. The percentage of confirmation at Rangoon was 75, the same as in 1927, but in Mandalay it declined from 78 to 61. There were 17 appeals against acquittals for disposal. The appeals were successful in the case of 8 persons and unsuccessful in the case of 4, while in the case of 11 the appeals were still pending at the close of the year. There were 3,062 revision cases for disposal as against 2,616 in 1927, and 2,856 were disposed of as against 2,482. Of the 4,448 persons involved, the applications of 3,151 were either rejected, or their sentences confirmed or enhanced. The cases of 291 were pending at the close of the year. Both at Rangoon and Mandalay there was a big increase in the number of cases called by the Court.

49. The number of cases committed to Sessions during the year was 923 involving 1,672 persons, as compared with 944 cases involving 1,786 persons in 1927. Sessions Courts Tharrawaddy (75), Myingyan-Pakôkku (66), Arakan (64), Pegu (63), Magwe-Minbu (58), Prome-Thayetmyo (54), Toungoo (53), Henzada (52) and Shwebo-Katha (52) had the largest number of cases. There were 984 cases for disposal and 924 were decided. The average duration of cases increased one day to 42 days. The number of persons under trial was 1,790, as compared with 1,894 in 1927 ; 737 were convicted, 166 persons were condemned to death, 706 were acquitted, 4 died while under trial, and 177 remained under trial at the end of the year. The percentage of conviction was slightly over 56 which is a further reduction on the low figure, namely 58, of 1927. The appeals of 10,706 persons were before the Courts for disposal and of these 10,508 were decided leaving only 198 pending at the end of the year, compared with 307 in 1927. The average duration was 12 days the same as in 1927, but the percentage of confirmation fell from 72 to 71. The number of persons concerned in revision proceedings was 12,131 as against 12,500 in 1927. Out of a total of 11,831 proceedings disposed of the orders of the lower Courts were confirmed in 11,504 cases, and 220 were submitted to the High Court for renewal or modification. The average duration of revisions was further reduced from 13 to 8 days, but this reduction is really due to the fact that the duration is now being correctly calculated.

50. The number of first class magistrates remained the same as last year, namely, 306. The number of stipendiary magistrates not exercising appellate powers increased from 602 to 617. At the end of 1928 there were, outside Rangoon, 4 Additional District Magistrates. In Rangoon the Collector and the Special Collector were Additional Magistrates. Only 648 cases involving 1,175 persons were disposed of during the year, as against 758 cases involving 1,240 persons in 1927. Of the cases tried 219 were disposed of under special powers, 365 under ordinary powers, and 64 under summary powers. The number of appeals decided increased from 3,206 to 3,603. The percentage of confirmation fell from 52 to 50. The number of revision cases was 14,707 which is practically the same as in 1927. There was interference in the cases of 760 persons only. Excluding District Magistrates and Additional District Magistrates there were 125 special power Magistrates at the end of the year. The shortage of this class of Magistrate caused great inconvenience; the number of cases tried by them in which they exercised their special powers increased from 3,272 to 3,812. The number of Benches of Honorary Magistrates increased still further from 141 to 143, while 4 Honorary Magistrates sat singly. Grave irregularities came to light in connection with process-fees realised by some of the Benches away from township headquarters. Single Honorary Magistrates disposed of 109 cases with an average duration of 27 days and Benches 36,331 cases with an average duration of 4 days. The number tried by Benches in 1927 was 43,256 and the decrease is due to the appointment in Rangoon of an additional Stipendiary Magistrate for the trial of Municipal cases and cases under the Motor Vehicles Act.

51. The number of offences reported to the Criminal Courts increased from 135,965 to 137,290, the highest total on record. The number of cases brought to trial increased from 132,558 to 135,202. Under section 203 of the Criminal Procedure Code 4,543 complaints were dismissed, 17,317 were declared false or mistaken and 116,476 were returned as true. A much larger number of complaints ought to have been dismissed summarily without trial. The number of cases brought to trial under the Indian Penal Code increased from 53,722 to 54,546, and the number under Special and Local Laws from 78,786 to 80,656. Mention of the various classes of crime has been made in paragraph 36 of this chapter.

52. The percentage of convictions in Magistrates' Courts was 65, the same as in 1927. The highest percentage was, as usual, in Rangoon where it rose from 84 to 87. In Tharrawaddy, Tavoy and Prome the percentage was 70 or over. The duration in District Magistrates' Courts was again 33 days, and in the Courts of other stipendiary magistrates there was a reduction from 21 to 20 days. The number of cases pending before Magistrates at the end of the year declined from 7,893 to 6,714 which is a very satisfactory reduction, and the number of persons on trial declined from 11,900 to 11,082. The number of witnesses examined by all Magistrates rose considerably from 459,888 to 499,482.

53. Although during the year there were 1,339 persons under trial for murder, attempted murder and culpable homicide, as compared with 1,294 in 1927, death sentences were passed on 95 persons only, as compared with 143 in 1927. The decrease in the number of death sentences is remarkable. During the year 162 death sentences were submitted by Sessions Courts to the High Court, but of these only 92 were confirmed from which it would appear that Sessions Judges have convicted in murder cases on insufficient evidence. Only 84 persons were actually executed. The number sentenced to transportation increased from 179 to 195, but the number sentenced to imprisonment decreased from 23,166 to 22,246. The number of sentences of whipping alone increased from 1,614 to 2,598, and of whipping in addition to imprisonment from 77 to 438. These figures show that some use has been made of the extended provisions for the punishment of whipping contained in the Burma Whipping (Amendment) Act of 1927. Illegal sentences of whipping were passed in 32 cases. The total amount of fines imposed rose from Rs. 14·53 *lakhs* to Rs. 16·30 *lakhs*; the amount realised from Rs. 12·35 *lakhs* to Rs. 13·28 *lakhs*, and the amount paid out as compensation from Rs. 84,759 to Rs. 93,954. The number of persons released on probation decreased from 3,473 to 3,399. The number of juvenile offenders dealt with under the Reformatory Schools Act increased from 392 to 458, and 29 were detained in a reformatory, this being the same number as in 1927. It is again necessary to remark that magistrates vested with powers under the Reformatory Schools Act are not making adequate use of them.

Prisons.

54. Inclusive of hospitals and observant cells, there was accommodation at the close of the year 1928 for 21,330 prisoners of all classes, the figure for the previous year being 20,246. The increase of 984 is accounted for by the opening of a Camp Jail at Molkpau (1,116), the provision of additional accommodation at the new Tharrawaddy Central Jail (403) and the Alon Camp Jail (215), and the taking over of the Subsidiary Jail at Kvaikto (50), amounting in all to an increase of 1,784, from which has to be deducted 800, representing the temporary accommodation at Tharrawaddy which ceased to be used.

55. The number of prisoners of all classes at the commencement of the year (20,204), the number admitted to jail (53,125), the number discharged from all causes (52,057), the number remaining at the close of the year (21,272) and the daily average population (20,644) all exceeded the figures for the previous year. At the commencement of the year 1928 there remained 18,517 convicts, and 23,146 were imprisoned during the year, making a total of 41,663. Of these, 2,212 were released on appeal, 8,507 on expiry of sentence, and 9,608 under the Remission Rules; 805 convicts were released by order of Government, 351 on the recommendation of the Central Revisory Board, 301 for ticket-of-leave employment under the Public Works Department, 61 were repatriated to China, 30 were liberated on medical grounds, 24 were transferred to the Salvation Army Juvenile Adult Criminal Institution, 17 were released under the "Fourteen-year Rule", and 21 were miscellaneous other releases.

One hundred and thirty-nine volunteers were sent to Port Blair for service, 8 were transferred to mental hospitals, 9 escaped but were not recaptured before the close of the year, 84 were executed and 489 died. The number remaining at the close of the year was 19,821 and the daily average convict population was 19,147 compared with 17,936 in 1927. Of the total number of convicts admitted to jail during the year 84·13 *per cent.* were Buddhists, 4·86 *per cent.* were Mohamedans, 3·61 *per cent.* were Hindus and 0·51 *per cent.* Christians, while all other denominations accounted for 6·89 *per cent.* There was an increase, compared with the previous year, under all age classes, except 16 to 18 years and 22 to 30 years, the increase being most marked in the classes 31 to 40 years, 19 to 21 years and 41 to 60 years. Only 21·68 *per cent.* of the admissions were illiterate. Compared with the year 1927, there was a marked increase in the number engaged in agriculture and with animals; there was also a small rise in the number engaged in commerce and trade. A satisfactory decline occurred under the heads "Persons in service or performing personal offices," "Miscellaneous persons not classed otherwise" and "Persons employed in mechanical arts, manufactures, and engineering operations, etc." the decreases being 733,552 and 408, respectively. The number of females convicted was unusually high, namely 643 as compared with 521 in 1927. Of the 23,146 convicts admitted to jail during the year, 90·44 *per cent.* were awarded rigorous imprisonment, 5·98 *per cent.* simple imprisonment, 1·97 *per cent.* rigorous imprisonment with whipping and 1·61 *per cent.* rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement. Of the total number admitted, 136 were sentenced to death, 176 to transportation for life and 7 to transportation for a term.

56. The number of prison offences dealt with by Criminal Courts rose from 81 in 1927 to 113 in 1928. Of these offences, 38 related to assaults, 35 to escapes, 34 to striking work and 6 to possession of prohibited articles. With a large increase in the daily average convict population there was inevitably a general increase in the number of offences dealt with by Jail Superintendents. Except for "Warnings", there was an all round decrease in the number of minor punishments inflicted by Jail Superintendents. On the other hand, the number of major punishments showed an increase under all heads except "Penal diet with cellular confinement exceeding 48 hours". Of the 38 assaults dealt with by Criminal Courts, 24 were committed on fellow prisoners, of whom 10 were convict officers, 12 on paid warders, one on an Assistant Jailor and one on a subordinate working in the Branch Press, attached to the Rangoon Central Jail. Five of the assaults proved fatal. At Rangoon a prisoner resented being searched by his convict officer and struck the latter on the head with an iron rod weighing 1½ lbs. The injured man was promptly removed to the Rangoon General Hospital for surgical treatment, but died the following day. The assailant was awarded a life sentence. At the same jail a convict night watchman took offence at a keyman not opening the gate when called upon to do so. The convict night watchman caught the keyman by the neck and an altercation took place. A convict of the non-habitual class, undergoing a sentence of life transportation for murder, suddenly got up and chased the convict night watchman and eventually overtook and stabbed him. The injured man died within fifteen minutes. The knife used on the occasion was found broken, but the person who broke it could not be discovered. The alleged

assailant was acquitted by the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon. Using a wooden mallet, a habitual prisoner, at Myaungmya, struck a fellow convict on the head. The injured man was immediately attended to but died early the following morning. The motive for the assault could not be ascertained. The assailant was sentenced to transportation for life. At the Myingyan Jail a convict assaulted a fellow prisoner causing four external wounds on the head with comminuted fracture on the skull. The weapon used was the leg of a wooden cot. There was an old standing grudge between the two prisoners when they were employed on ticket-of-leave. Both were remanded to jail for breach of conditions of release, and a fresh quarrel arose over a cup of curry. The assailant was awarded transportation for life. At Prome, a convict night watchman assaulted a paid warder, hitting him on the head with a piece of wood three feet long and two inches thick. The injured warder was removed to the Civil Hospital for surgical treatment, but died there a week later. The assault was the outcome of revenge over the warder having squeezed the convict night watchmen's neck for being in possession of tobacco. The assailant was awarded a life sentence. There were 44 escapes, 4 from inside and 40 from outside jails, the latter having absconded while employed outside. Of the 44 as many as 35 were recaptured before the close of the year, while 4 were subsequently arrested. There were 15 escapes from Central Jails, 18 from District Jails and 11 from Camp Jails. As usual the escapes from extramural gangs occurred through negligence on the part of the warder guard in allowing the prisoners to get out of sight and in not frequently verifying the number in his charge. The warders who were remiss in their duties were suitably dealt with by being sent up for trial and in a few cases, where it was not possible to obtain a conviction, they were dealt with departmentally. At the Mokpalin Camp Jail a convict night watchman and an ordinary prisoner broke the top rings of their fetters and thus succeeded in freeing themselves of their belchain. Overcoming the obstacles in their way, they got through the outer wire fence at about 2-30 a.m. when the sentry on duty caught sight of them. He promptly raised the alarm with the result that one of the fugitives was recaptured on the spot, while the other disappeared into the adjoining jungle. He was however, rearrested the following day. On being sent up for trial the two prisoners were awarded six months' rigorous imprisonment each. In this case the warders were not punished in view of the fact that no negligence on their part was revealed. At the Mogók District Jail two prisoners got away by sawing off one of the lower wooden bars of the palisading in the dormitory. Through the opening thus made, they squeezed themselves and got on to the verandah. They made their way to the hospital section which is not in sight of the sentry on duty, and here they succeeded in scaling the main wall by means of three pieces of bamboo firmly tied together and fixed to the top of the wall by a large iron hook removed from the blacksmith's shop. Eventually, they descended outside the jail, the foggy night facilitating escape. One of the prisoners was arrested and on being sent up for trial was awarded two years' rigorous imprisonment. Two prisoners who connived at the escape and two warders who were on duty at the time were prosecuted and the former were sentenced to 30 stripes each. Of the two warders one was fined Rs 50 and the other acquitted. The number of disciplinary floggings increased from 67 in 1927 to 83 in 1928, 66 being inflicted for assaults, 5 each for (a) contumaciously refusing to work, (b) conspiring to escape from lawful custody and (c) other serious offences.

against discipline, and 2 for attempting to escape from the Jail garden. Habituals numbered 7,819 or 40·84 *per cent* of the convict population. They were the recipients of 8,092 punishments or 59·19 *per cent* of the total number. They accounted for 79 out of the 113 offences dealt with by Criminal Courts and 37 of the 75 awards of corporal punishment. Habituals were responsible for 402 or 52·17 *per cent* of the offences relating to assaults, mutiny and escapes. Of the daily average convict population, *viz.* 18,989 males and 158 females, 3,423 males or 18·33 *per cent* and 6 females or 3·80 *per cent* were employed as convict officers. The number punished was 3,234 males and 9 females. Convict officers afforded much assistance in controlling prisoners and maintaining discipline. Their conduct is reported to have been generally satisfactory.

57 The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 23·77 *lakhs* against Rs. 22·87 *lakhs* in the previous year. The total cost per head of average strength fell from Rs. 118-3-2 to Rs. 115-2-7. Under "Establishment" the expenditure increased by Rs. 46,013 due to (1) additional staff entertained in connection with the Alon Quarry Camp Jail, (2) staff entertained for the new Mokralin Camp Jail and Kyaukto Subsidiary Jail, and (3) increments earned by the staff. Under "Dietary Charges" the expenditure rose from Rs. 9·14 *lakhs* to Rs. 9·57 *lakhs* but the average cost per head fell from Rs. 47-7-8 to Rs. 46-9-9. With the exception of paddy all dietary articles were purchased at cheaper rates than in the previous year. The larger quantity of paddy which had to be purchased for the additional prison population accounts for Rs. 49,204 of the increased expenditure. "Hospital charges" rose from Rs. 60,947 to Rs. 66,759. The increase was due to the larger daily average number of sick and to additional expenditure on account of diets and extras for patients. The heads which show a reduction of expenditure are "Clothing and bedding of prisoners" (Rs. 1,18,688 to Rs. 1,13,643) and "Charges for moving prisoners." (Rs. 1,11,193 to Rs. 85,047). Under the former head the reduction of expenditure is accounted for by the economy effected in the weaving section of the Insein Central Jail, and under the latter by fewer prisoners being released for ticket-of-leave employment under the Public Works Department or voluntarily deported to Port Blair to take up work there. Under four other heads there was an unavoidable increase of expenditure, namely "Charges for miscellaneous services and supplies" (Rs. 99,331, to Rs. 1,06,714), "Travelling Allowance" (Rs. 31,293 to Rs. 32,460), "Contingencies" (Rs. 46,659 to Rs. 54,425) and "Extraordinary Charges for Livestock, Tools and Plant" (Rs. 16,404 to Rs. 2,247). Jail Dairies worked at a profit of Rs. 1,503 against Rs. 3,889 in the previous year. The dairy at Insein, that was worked at a loss, has been closed down and the livestock disposed of. After meeting prison requirements valued at Rs. 1,20,746 the surplus garden produce sold to the public realized Rs. 11,424. The estimated value of paddy, dhāl, condiments and tamarind raised by prison labour was Rs. 57,170. The total cash earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 2·50 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 3·92 *lakhs* in 1927. Owing to the decreased demand for manufactured articles, stocks of both manufactured articles and raw materials increased considerably, their value on the 31st December 1928 being

Rs 80,395 more than at the corresponding date in the previous year. Another important item is an increase of Rs 26,000 in the amount of outstanding bills due to jails and not realized at the close of the year. A further item that adversely affected the figures of the manufacture department was the inclusion in these accounts, for the first time, of expenditure incurred on temporary staff engaged in connection with the employment of convicts. The expenditure, which amounted to Rs 19,000, was previously debited to the supply accounts. The total of these three items alone is Rs 125,394 and in the main they account for the difference of Rs 142,600 between the cash earnings of 1928, compared with 1927. The predominating feature of the manufacture accounts is the increase in expenditure from Rs 88,860 to Rs. 2,23,900. The contributory causes of this are (a) the inclusion of the wages of the temporary staff in connection with the employment of convicts already referred to, (b) the re-opening of the Boot Factory on which a net expenditure of Rs. 24,300 was incurred, and (c) the reduced prices charged for prison clothing. The daily average number sentenced to labour in 1928 increased by no less than 1,211 and the impossible task of finding suitable and remunerative employment for such a heavy increase in numbers, combined with a decreased demand for manufactured articles, accounts for the drop in the average cash profit per head from Rs 24-9-10 in 1927 to Rs 16-4-7 in 1928. The value of prison labour employed under the Public Works Department for the construction of the new Central Jail at Thairawaddy was Rs 92,408 against Rs 1,29,863-8-0 in 1927. Convict labour was also employed by the Public Works Department for the construction of the Camp Jail at Mokpalin, the value of this being estimated at Rs 51,525.

The Textile Department at the Insein Jail has progressed under the direction of the Textile Expert. A contract for the supply of 16,000 red *loongyis* to the Police Department was secured, the price per piece being less by one rupee than that previously paid by the Police Department to outside contractors. Six blanket power looms and a milling machine have been installed with the object of manufacturing blankets of a suitable quality for the Police and other consuming Departments. This is the first power section installed in the Textile Department and the result will be watched with interest. The reduced rates for prison cloth were maintained throughout the year which, in spite of the increased population that had to be clothed, resulted in an overhead saving on the year. The Boot Factory, which was re-started in March 1928, has progressed satisfactorily. The prisoners have been carefully trained and the quality of the boots now being manufactured has so far been found up to the mark. This Department now holds contracts for the supply of ammunition boots to the Civil and Military Police, the Town Police and the Forest Department, which, added to the requirements of jails, makes the annual demand approximately 15,000 pairs. The net cost of the upkeep of prisoners increased from Rs. 18'94 lakhs, in 1927 to Rs. 21'28 lakhs, in 1928. The increase is largely due to the additional population, namely 1,297 which had to be maintained throughout the year. That it was not possible to provide remunerative labour for such a large increase in numbers and thereby proportionately increase the manufacture receipts is also a contributory cause of the greater cost. The average net cost per head of average strength was Rs. 103-0-7 against Rs. 97-14-0 in 1927.

58. A review of statistics for the past five years shows that (1) the average daily prison population has steadily increased from 16,532 in 1924 to 20,644 in the year under report, (2) the admissions to hospital at 11,977 are the highest on record except for the years 1924 and 1926 when they numbered 15,594 and 12,307 respectively, (3) the daily average number of sick was 368, compared with 341 in 1924, and (4) the number of deaths, namely 514 is the highest on record. The ratio of mortality for Central Jails increased from 16.92 *per mille* in 1927 to 29.57 *per mille* in 1928; that for District Jails dropped, from 19.83 *per mille* to 16.53 *per mille*. The Camp Jails returned two deaths and the Subsidiary Jails one death. There were 3 deaths from cholera and 14 from plague. Accidental or sudden deaths numbered 8, and there were 4 fatal assaults. Of the 30 releases on medical grounds, 8 were classified as deaths, the prisoners concerned being in a hopeless state at the time of release. As in the previous year, there was no case of suicide. At the Sandoway, Shwabo and Shwegyin District Jails there were no deaths. Of the 514 prisoners who died, 215 were admitted to jail in good health, 77 in bad health, and 222 in indifferent health; 12 died within a week of admission, 5 within two weeks, 16 within three weeks and 4 within four weeks of admission to jail; 477 died after one month's imprisonment. Twenty-two deaths were among prisoners who had to be sent to hospital immediately on arrival in jail. As regards the age periods, 21 were over 60 years, 149 between 41 and 60 years, and 344 between 16 and 40. Fourteen convicts belonging to this province, were received from the Andamans on medical grounds. Each of them, except one inflicted with night blindness, was suffering from some form of organic disease which rendered him unfit for hard labour. One of them, a leprous subject, was released during the year and one ailing from pulmonary tuberculosis, died within fifteen days of his arrival in Burma. The remaining twelve are still confined in the Rangoon Central Jail. Of the convicts admitted to jail during the year, 1,998 or 8.63 *per cent.* were addicted to the opium habit. The total number of prisoners released was 30,963; of these, 65.55 *per cent.* gained weight, 20.59 *per cent.* remained stationary, and only 13.86 *per cent.* lost weight. Of the 110 prisoners treated in the special tubercular ward at Myingyan, 34 were cured, 8 were discharged otherwise and 28 died, so that the number remaining at the close of the year was 40. It is satisfactory to note that the Pagan Jail again returned no case of beri-beri, thanks to the recommendations made a few years ago by Colonel MacCarrison, C.I.E., M.D., I.M.S.

59. The Juvenile Jail at Meiktila opened the year with 148 youths; 188 were admitted during 1928, making a total of 266. Of these, 26 were transferred to other jails, 82 were released, one escaped and 7 died, so that the number remaining at the close of the year was 150. The daily average number of juvenile convicts was 155. The discipline of the boys was not so favourably reported on by the Jail Superintendent as in former years. There were too many cases of insubordination, petty assaults, and smuggling of prohibited articles. On the Head of the Prison Department bringing this matter to the notice of the Committee of Visitors, steps were taken for the transfer of twenty-six incorrigibles to adult jails where separate accommodation is provided

for juvenile convicts. As in former years, great importance is attached to physical culture and the boys are taught company drill and scout craft. The youths are instructed in carpentry, cane-work and rope making, but, on account of its crudeness, it was difficult to dispose of their handiwork, with profit to the jail. Education is carried up to the fourth standard, and the examination results for the year were satisfactory. Besides the garden in which are employed a number of short-term juveniles, there is a seed-farm attached to the jail supervised by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Myingyan Circle, Meiktila. This farm is under the direct management of a trained Burman Subordinate who imparts theoretical and practical instruction.

At five of the central jails the experiment of providing schools was continued, the object being to impart secular education. The subjects taught were reading, writing, simple arithmetic, geography, history and periodical health lectures. The results for the year were very satisfactory. Sanction has been accorded to the continued employment of the teaching staff for a further period of one year.

The number of convicts released under the remission system was 9,608, compared with 9,177 in 1927. Five convicts (the same number as in the previous year) who were entitled to the benefits of the remission system, failed to earn any remission. Special remission was awarded to 6,213 convicts for having been free from punishment for a year, and 21,438 earned special remission for other reasons.

The Burma Prisoners' Aid Society has been in existence for the past six years and has done good work, but its funds have run so low that the closing down of the shelter was contemplated. During the year 37 prisoners were accommodated at the "Shelter" and of these, 16 obtained work through the help of the Salvation Army authorities. Some of these prisoners were helped financially by the Society, the amount expended being Rs. 549.

The number of religious services held during the year, was 1,766, of which 1,563 were for Buddhists, 96 for Christians, 62 for Mohamedans and 45 for Hindus. At five jails, *viz.*, Rangoon, Thayetmyo, Akyab, Mergui and the Alon Camp Jail, the prisoners were provided, on festive occasions, with special food prepared from dietary articles supplied by charitably disposed persons.

The Salvation Army Juvenile-Adult Criminal Institution continued to work satisfactorily. There was a decided improvement in the quality of the furniture made at this institution, partly due to the Rangoon Jail having provided three or four good carpenters. Among the improvements effected during the year were the provision of aluminium cups and plates and thirty iron bedsteads.

The number of prisoners actually released on the recommendation of the Jail Revisory Board was 351. During the year four prisoners, conditionally released in previous years, were returned to jail for breach of conditions, or for fresh offences. Of the total number, *viz.* 2,315, conditionally released since the year 1923, only 97 or 4.19 *per cent.* have had their remission of sentence cancelled by order of the Local Government. The percentage of reconvictions among prisoners of the habitual class so released was 13.93, that for casuals being only 2.61.

At the commencement of the year there were three ticket-of-leave camps in existence, *viz.*, at Seththwa, Salin and Mokpalin. The Camps at Salin and Mokpalin were closed down on the 4th June 1928 and 1st

August 1928, respectively, the conditionally released prisoners from there being drafted to the Saththwa Camp. The number remaining in camps on the 1st January 1928 was 818, 381 were conditionally released during the year and 117 received by transfer making a total of 1,316. Of these, 697 were released on expiry of sentence, 117 were transferred to other camps, 147 escaped, 39 were remanded to jail and 10 died, so that the number remaining at the close of the year was 306. On completion of the work at Saththwa, the headquarters of the camp were removed to Taungdwingyi where the prisoners were employed in constructing a road to Natmouk, the length of the road being about 25 miles. The rate paid to the prisoners was Rs. 0-13-6 per 100 cft which is one quarter of the local rate. The total amount earned by the prisoners during the year was Rs. 46,755 excluding the 25 *per cent.* deductions by the Public Works Department to meet overhead charges. At the close of the year the families of thirty prisoners were residing in camp. Some of the families worked with their husbands, while others kept petty shops for catering to the camp's requirements. Generally speaking, the prisoners behaved themselves well. Except for a case of dacoity, in connection with which four prisoners from the Saththwa Camp were sent up for trial, three being convicted and one acquitted, the ticket-of-leave camps were free from any serious crime.

Civil Justice.

60 During the year the sanction of the Secretary of State in Council was received to the appointment of an additional Deputy Registrar, to be in charge of the Courts General Department of the High Court, in place of the existing Assistant Registrar of the General Department, and to the appointment of an Indian Civil Service Officer under Judicial training to this post so as to leave the Registrar more time to take up judicial duties. The main event of the year was perhaps the reorganization of the process-serving establishment of the province, as a result of which it was placed on time scales of pay which represent an advance of nearly 50 *per cent* on previous rates. With the introduction of a new township of Waw in Pegu district the Township Courts of this district were increased by one. The Judges of the Subdivisional Courts of Tavoy, Mergui and Toungoo and Pyu were appointed Additional Judges of their respective District Courts. The appointments of Additional District and Sessions Judge in the Arakan, Myingyan-Pakòkku and Magwe-Minbu divisions were continued on a temporary basis. At the close of 1928 there were 11 Judges of the High Court, 42 District Judges (including Additional Judges of the District Courts and the Chief Judge, Small Cause Court, Rangoon) and 235 other Judges.

61. The total number of suits instituted in all Courts of the province was 68,267 as compared with 66,060 in 1927. The total value declined from Rs. 392'62 *lakhs* to Rs 376 67 *lakhs*. Institutions in the High Court increased from 631 to 656, but in the Rangoon Small Cause Court the number declined from 11,589 to 11,186. Outside Rangoon the number instituted increased from 726 to 733 in District Courts, from 16,416 to 17,152 in Small Cause Courts, from 3,079 to 3,292 in Subdivisional Courts and from 33,619 to 35,248 in Township Courts. The total number of suits for disposal

before all the Courts increased from 74,231 to 76,486 but the number pending at the close of the year decreased from 7,058 to 6,427. The number of pending suits decreased from 542 to 388 in the High Court, from 625 to 507 in Small Cause Courts outside Rangoon, from 1,096 to 1,043 in Subdivisional Courts, and from 2,458 to 2,099 in Township Courts. On the other hand the number pending in District Courts increased from 285 to 307 and in the Small Cause Court, Rangoon, from 2,052 to 2,083. The average duration of contested suits in all Courts of the province increased from 76 days to 80 days, while that of uncontested suits decreased from 36 to 33 days. For all classes of Courts outside Rangoon the average duration in both contested and uncontested cases either decreased or remained the same but for the High Court and the Small Cause Court, Rangoon, the average duration increased for both classes of cases.

62. The number of appeals for disposal before District Courts declined from 4,828 to 4,177. Of these, 3,670 were disposed of and the number pending was reduced from 557 to 507. The percentage of confirmations was a little over 61 and is practically the same as last year. The average duration was still further reduced from 66 to 57 days. The number of miscellaneous appeals disposed of increased slightly from 457 to 459. The orders of the Original Courts were upheld in 285 cases, or 62 *per cent.* which compares with 60 *per cent.* in 1927.

63. The number of suits before the High Court for disposal increased from 1,094 in 1927 to 1,225 in the year under report and the number disposed of increased from 552 to 837. The aggregate value of the suits instituted increased from Rs. 61 lakhs to Rs. 76.42 lakhs. Of the suits disposed of, 246 or 29.39 *per cent.* were contested. The number of first appeals disposed of was 439 leaving only 168 pending at the close of the year as against 280 at the end of 1927. The percentage of confirmations was 53 in Rangoon and 69 in Mandalay. There were 1,368 second appeals for disposal and of these 993 were decided. The duration of first appeals was 219 days in Rangoon and 178 days in Mandalay, and of second appeals 181 days in Rangoon and 98 days in Mandalay. The number of applications for execution filed in 1928 was 597 as against 626 in 1927, but the amount realised in execution was Rs. 5.06 lakhs as against 4.35 lakhs. The number of applications in insolvency presented during the year was 262 and 271 were disposed of as against 346 in 1927, but there was a still further decrease of the pending file by 9 cases to 178. The miscellaneous cases instituted included 36 applications for probate, 106 for Letters of Administration, 40 under the Guardian and Wards Act, 13 under the Registration of Business Names Act, 3 under the Indian Companies Act, and 14 under other Acts. There were 33 appeals for disposal before the Privy Council but only 4 were disposed of as compared with 12 in 1927. Seven were dismissed for default or failure to furnish security. Of the 19 cases that remained pending at the close of the year only 3 were still under preparation in Rangoon. The work of the Privy Council branch has been greatly improved during the year under report.

64. Only two minor embezzlements in Judicial Offices were reported during the year. The Court Houses mentioned in last year's report as being under construction were completed during the year, with the exception of the new Courts at Rangoon and the Court Houses at Zigôn, Thabaung and Yegyi, Tavoy and Sagu. Other Court Houses completed were Paukkaung, Kyaunggon, Moulmein, Minbya, Katha, Myitkyina, Sumpra Bum and Fort Hertz. The urgently needed Court Houses at Meiktila and Toungoo still remain unfunded. Administrative sanction has been obtained to the construction of a new Court House at Mandalay. The total receipts from Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts rose from Rs 48'43 *lakhs* to Rs. 52'46 *lakhs* and at the same time the total charges increased from Rs. 76'87 *lakhs* to Rs. 89'45 *lakhs*. This last figure includes expenditure of over Rs. 21 *lakhs* by the Public Works Department on original works. At the end of the year there were in actual practice 446 advocates, 643 higher grade pleaders and 2,361 lower grade pleaders. One lady was admitted as an advocate and 5 as third grade pleaders. As lower grade pleaders are not now being admitted this grade will gradually come to an end.

Registration.

65. The Excise Commissioner continued to hold charge of the office of the Inspector-General of Registration. The instructions for the communication by Sub-Registrars to the Land Records Department of the particulars of transfers of land registered or recorded in Registration Offices were revised. The list of areas excluded from the operation of the Indian Registration Act was amended in respect of the Myitkyina District.

66. The total number of compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property decreased by 8'07 *per cent.* from 125,199 to 115,840, and the aggregate value by 8'40 *per cent.* from Rs 22'95 crores to Rs. 21'17 crores. The decrease was mostly confined to Lower Burma. Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 or over decreased by 15'92 *per cent.* from 52,991 to 45,715 and their value from Rs 12'12 crores to Rs. 10'03 crores. Instruments of gift of immoveable property rose from 1,648 to 1,727 and their value from Rs. 32'48 *lakhs* to Rs. 41'82 *lakhs*. Instruments of mortgage numbered 63,444 as against 65,521 but the value rose to Rs. 9'49 crores from Rs 9'30 crores. The decreases in the number of documents occurred in most of the districts of Lower Burma while there were increases in most of the districts in Upper Burma. The number of optional registrations affecting immoveable property rose from 802 to 1,085. There were more documents in Upper Burma than in Lower Burma, which is due to a big increase in the number of mortgages of a value of less than Rs. 100 in one district. Most of these mortgage documents were connected with the working of Co-operative Societies. There were no prosecutions during the year.

67. The total income for the year fell from Rs. 6'95 *lakhs* to Rs. 6'45 *lakhs*. Expenditure increased by Rs. 5,625 and was 28'3 *per cent.* of the total income. The total net income decreased from Rs. 5'17 *lakhs* to Rs 4'62 *lakhs*.

Joint Stock Companies.

68. The number of Joint Stock Companies registered increased from 13 to 17, and the authorised capital of those registered increased from Rs. 39 85 *lakhs* to Rs. 491 *lakhs*. Ten of the new companies were connected with trading and manufacturing, two with mining, one with navigation, one with securities and investment, one with estate land and buildings, and the remaining two had for their object the planting of rubber and sugar. Eight companies with an aggregate authorised capital of Rs. 68 60 *lakhs* were wound up. The total number of associations not for profit remained unchanged at 21. Twenty-one companies increased their capital, the aggregate increase of paid-up capital being approximately Rs. 71 *lakhs*. Only one company reduced its capital. Three companies were added to the list of companies established outside British India bringing the total number of companies registered under this head to 190. There were no prosecution under the Indian Companies Act.

Local Boards Administration

69. The year 1928-29 was the sixth complete year since the District Councils were established and the third and final year of their second term of office. The general elections to Circle Boards which took place in the latter half of the year 1928 were not keenly contested, the percentage of persons voting to total electors in contested constituencies being only 26·63 for all 28 Districts concerned. This figure was, however, slightly higher than the corresponding figure, viz., 24·83 for the previous general elections. The District Council and the Joint School Board of Kyaukse were superseded for the period from August 1928 to December 1929 by an Order (confirmed by the Burma Legislative Council) on account of maladministration, and the affairs of the Council and the Board were administered during the period of super-session by an officer appointed by Government. The functions of Circle Boards were limited in scope as the District Councils were still not in a position to delegate to them independent powers or to place adequate funds at their disposal. They continued therefore to act as agents of the Councils in supervising public works, markets, cattle pounds, ferries, etc., in their respective jurisdictions. Village Committees established under the Burma Village Act, 1907, were also not in a position to take an effective part in rural Self-Government as no business was entrusted to them by Circle Boards as regards public health, village communications and other matters. Only four District Councils can subsist on the assigned revenues without Government contribution, the rest are still in the process of learning to develop the existing local sources of revenue and to exploit new sources. There was an increase in the number of Councils employing a District Engineer from 6 to 7. In the remainder, all important engineering works are still carried out by the Public Works Department. The Councils incurred a substantially larger expenditure on public works and vernacular education than in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of District School Boards for rural schools from 25 to 26 with a corresponding decrease in the number of Joint School Boards for municipal and rural areas from 3 to 2.

Two hundred and sixty-four new vernacular schools were opened in poor and backward localities with the help of special contributions from Provincial Funds. The administration of Medical and Public Health Services was carried on by District Councils without any important changes being introduced. Civil Surgeons continued to be *ex-officio* District Health Officers. The Vaccination Act, 1880, and the Vaccination Law Amendment Act, 1909, were extended to the area under the jurisdiction of the Shwebo District Council. The need for the provision of a pure water supply in villages was felt in most districts. A special conference of All-Burma District Councils was held at Thaton during October 1928 to discuss the Resolution issued by Government in the previous year on Proposals for the improvement of Local Self-Government. The views expressed by the conference and by local officers on this subject have been considered by the Local Government Advisory Board, and Government is considering the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the necessity for legislative changes.

Municipal Administration.

70. The ordinary receipts for the year ending 31st March 1929 amounted to Rs. 99.37 lakhs and the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 95.75 lakhs. There was thus a margin of Rs. 3.62 lakhs as against Rs. 4.14 lakhs in 1927-28. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 19.4.7 to Rs. 21.6.1. Capital expenditure totalled Rs. 14.79 lakhs, of which Rs. 7.55 lakhs was spent on reconstructing Monkey Point Road, Upper Pazundaung Road, Merchant Street, Lower Kemmendine Road and Ahlone Strand Road and Rs. 1.28 lakhs on the construction of the new Fire Brigade Building. Rs. 1.23 lakhs was spent on the installation of a third engine and pump at Yegu pumping station. The total length of roadway in charge of the Corporation has increased to 144 miles. The expenditure on remetalling was Rs. 1.67 lakhs and on tarring roads Rs. 1.83 lakhs. The number of new electric street lamps has been increased by 261, and the number of oil lamps has been reduced to 139. The undeveloped portion of Dalhousie Park on Bahan side was reclaimed and the reclamation and equipment of Theinbyu Triangle were completed during the year. The number of permits granted for new buildings increased from 1,227 to 1,368. Rents for encroachments increased from Rs. 60,265 to Rs. 69,839. During the year nine additional lorries were purchased for the Motor Transport Department bringing the strength of the fleet up to 37, excluding ambulances and special machines. During the year the work of transporting meat from the Slaughter House was taken over by this Department and the cost of meat transport has now been reduced to about 3 annas 10 pies per ton-mile, indicating a saving by this service of Rs. 500 per month. As regards the water supply a further report from Consulting Engineers recommends the adoption of what is called the Mingaladon Tank Scheme comprising the construction of a series of shallow tanks to the east of the hills at Mingaladon, with pumping stations, etc. The cost of this scheme also appears prohibitive and it has been decided to renew the investigations regarding the Pugyi Forest Scheme and also to examine the Mingaladon Scheme with a view to possible modifications and detailed comparison with the Pugyi Scheme. The Booster Pumping

Station functioned successfully and was mainly responsible for the improved conditions of water supply. The Hlawga Lake and the distribution mains were maintained in good order.

The number of births registered increased from 7,316 to 7,426 and the number of deaths from 10,851 to 11,690, representing a ratio of 30.71 *per mille* on the estimated population. The infant mortality increased from 294 to 341 per 1,000 births. The number of deaths from plague increased from 168 to 257, but deaths from cholera decreased from 84 to 83. Diarrhoea and dysentery accounted for 866 deaths as against 1,040 in the previous year, tuberculosis 796 compared with 964 and respiratory diseases 2,642 compared with 2,476. Deaths from small-pox increased from 203 to 378. The total number of patients treated at the Contagious Diseases Hospital was 2,242. The total number of vaccinations performed increased from 137,773 to 225,910 of which 196,744 were primary operations. The percentage of successful cases was 98.72 in primary and 37.81 in secondary.

The fire brigade attended 124 land fires and 4 riverside fires, the total loss being only Rs. 72,000 compared with Rs. 27.81 *lakhs* in the previous year. The new fire float "Torrent" attended the fire which took place on the four oil floats of the British Burma Petroleum Company at Thilawa during the year, and in spite of the most difficult conditions the fire was brought under control. An account of the finances of the Corporation is contained in paragraph 145 below.

71 The number of Municipalities outside Rangoon remained at 57, with a total membership of 818. Of these members 673 were elected, 99 co-opted, 42 nominated and 4 *ex-officio*. Only 79 of the total members were Government officials. Of the 1,426 meetings held during the year, 80 were abortive for want of a quorum; the corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,444 and 72.

A rule was made by the Local Government under section 205 of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, providing that no person shall be co-opted as a member of a Municipal Committee unless he is a Government officer in the Public Health, Medical, Public Works or Veterinary Department or any department approved by the Local Government for the purpose of that rule.

The Myingyan and Nyaunglebin water works were completed. The Pyapôn water works were nearing completion. Particulars regarding expenditure on water supply schemes and other public health projects are contained in paragraph 164 of this report.

Fires broke out at Danubyin, Kyauklat, Mandalay, Minhla, Mònywa, Moulmein, Pakôkku, Pyu, Promé, Salin, Shwedaung, Pyapôn and Bassein.

The Reports of 23 Municipalities are silent as regards the occurrence of fires, while 12 Municipalities enjoyed complete immunity from fire.

The Myingyan and Insein drainage schemes were completed. A new dispensary building and a maternity block were constructed at Danubyin and a contagious diseases hospital was opened on the site of the old Shore Dispensary at Mandalay.

More than half of the Municipal and Town Committees have adopted the model bye-laws framed by the Local Government for the registration of births and deaths.

During the year electric lighting was introduced in the Syriam Municipality and the Notified Area of Thungangyun, thereby increasing the number of Municipalities and Notified Areas lighted by electricity from 36 to 37 and from 2 to 3, respectively. Licenses and sanctions under the Indian Electricity Act were issued for the supply of electric energy in Myaungmya and Yamèthin.

The Local Government confirmed bye-laws made by the following Municipal Committees — Nyaunglebin regarding regulation of *jurick-shas* plying for hire; Allanmyo-Ywataung, Mergui, Kyônpyaw, Ngathang-gyaung, Shwedaung and Sandoway regarding the regulation of slaughter-houses; Ngathanggyaung, Kyaukse, Sandoway, Mandalay and Bassein regarding the regulation of sale of meat; Pyu regarding conduct of business, Ngathanggyaung regarding road-side stalls, Nattalin regarding the regulation of private markets and Prome and Kvaikpyu regarding the registration of births and deaths.

Notified Areas — The number of notified areas including those in the Federated Shan States remained at 20

Military.

72. The strength of regular troops in Burma on the 31st March 1929. was 5,856 of whom 1,886 were Europeans and 3,970 Asiatics. The Auxiliary Force (India) contained 2,948 adults, including 931 reservists. There were also 34 cadets.

Marine

73. During the year under review the Burma Government's trawlers "Lady Craddock" and "Arakan" were again employed in tending the Burma Coast lights, the Port Blair station vessel S.S. "Ahmedi" tending the light-vessels and the light-houses at Alguada Reef and Table Island during the south-west monsoon. Owing to the unsuitability of the trawlers and to the station vessel not being able to return with the reliefs to Rangoon at once, difficulties were experienced in carrying out reliefs promptly. In consequence of this the health of the light-keepers and the crews of the light-vessels was far from satisfactory as they had to be kept out at the lights for longer periods than was necessary.

The light-vessels and light-houses were, however, maintained in good order and the repairs to buildings and machinery were carried out satisfactorily by the Public Works Department where necessary.

The total expenditure on the Burma Coast lights during the year was Rs. 4.35 *lakhs* as compared with Rs. 6.37 *lakhs* during the previous year, which included a sum of Rs. 1.05 *lakhs*, cost of re-erecting and re-fitting charges of the new light-vessel "Mindon." The fall in the expenditure during the year is also due to smaller expenditure on vessels employed in tending lights, *viz.*, Re. 0.62 *lakh* as against Rs. 1.12 *lakhs* for the year 1927-28. Net receipts realised from coast light dues rose from Rs. 7.21 *lakhs* to Rs. 7.91 *lakhs*. The annual *pro forma* account of the Burma coast light dues showed a profit of Rs. 71,130 on the year's working against a loss of Rs. 52,258 in 1927-28.

74. The number of steamers entering the port was 1,609 with an aggregate tonnage of 4,202,398 and the number of sailing ships 127 with an aggregate tonnage of 10,364. These figures represent an increase

Rangoon Port Trust
Administration

of 81 in the number of vessels and 322,412 in tonnage. Of the total number of vessels that entered the port 1,553 brought cargo for Rangoon, and of this number 967 discharged alongside. The total volume of sea-borne trade decreased slightly from 5,558,831 tons to 5,385,132 tons. Exports increased by about 200,000 tons but imports decreased by about 375,000 tons. About two million tons passed over the Commissioners' premises. In addition to this, the river-borne traffic handled amounted to more than 890,000 tons, and the rail-borne traffic to nearly 870,000 tons. The number of passengers who landed at Rangoon by sea increased slightly from 347,164 to 349,910 and the number of those embarking, from 314,289 to 328,390.

Progress was made with the main schemes for port development. The detailed plans and estimates for joining up Latter Street and Sule Pagoda wharves by a ferro-concrete wharf were sanctioned by Government in June 1928. By the end of the year the staging for the construction and sinking of cylinders had been completed and a start made with the casting of the concrete cylinders and piles. The work of equipping the rice depôt at Lamma-daw with cargo-boat jetties and installing electric lights along the new roads was completed early in the year. An estimate for the construction of a new Commissariat Depôt for the military authorities in exchange for the one in Godwin Road, was sanctioned in May 1928. At Botataung 19 new godowns and 2 cargo-boat jetties were completed and opened for traffic. Additional salt godowns and offices were built at the Import Salt Depôt at Upper Pazundaung. Negotiations for the purchase of certain lands at Dawbon were concluded with the Rangoon Development Trust.

In connection with the King's Reclamation Scheme the work of reclaiming an area of approximately 3 acres behind the upper end of the wall was completed in June 1928. A new depôt for coal and mooring plant is being established on this land consisting of a temporary jetty and pontoon for coaling launches; capstans, bollards and chain slides to facilitate the movement of heavy chains; a conciated area for storage of heavy plant and a steel pile jetty and crane for handling buoys and mooring plant. Most of this work had been completed by the end of the year. Various improvements were carried out in the Judah Ezekiel Street area. An estimate for building a new depôt for the Tavoy steamers at Botataung was sanctioned in June 1928. Two houses in Windermere Gardens were completed and occupied during the year and an estimate for 8 houses and 4 flats at Monkey Point for the assistant harbour masters was also sanctioned. The new offices were completed and occupied on the 21st September 1928. An account of the finances of the Port Trust, and of the survey works carried out during the year, will be found in paragraphs 148 and 80, respectively, of this Report.

75. The finances of the Rangoon Pilot Fund are dealt with in paragraph 149 below. There was again a deficit on the year's working of Rs 41,017, which has been written off to Net Revenue Account, leaving a balance of Rs. 82,118 at the credit of that account at the end of the year of

Rangoon Pilot Service

Report. With a view to cutting down the deficit in the current year's working the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon decided to reduce the rebate of pilotage fees from 20 *per cent.* to 10 *per cent.* with effect from the 1st October 1929

76 Besides Rangoon, there are eight smaller ports in the province—
 Minor Ports Moulmein, Bassein, Akyab, Tavoy, Mergui, Kyaukpyu, Sandoway and Victoria Point—which together dealt with about ten *per cent.* of the foreign trade of the province during the year under review, and with nearly 16 *per cent.* of the trade with India, as well as with intra-provincial trade. The number of vessels of all kinds entering these minor ports during the year was 2,702 with a total tonnage of 1,989,244, while 2,518 vessels with a total tonnage of 1,966,567 cleared.

77 Repeated voyages are taken into account in the statistics given in this paragraph, and coasting trade means Commercial Marine Shipping trade with Indian ports, whether British or not. The number of vessels entering ports in Burma rose from 3,982 in 1927-28 to 4,430 in the year of report and their aggregate tonnage from 5,541,461 to 6,215,970. The number of vessels clearing from ports in Burma rose from 4,065 to 4,236 and their tonnage from 5,645,376 to 6,137,850.

The total number of vessels engaged in foreign trade which entered the ports of Burma was 621, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,391,325 against 497 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 1,216,811 in the previous year. The total clearances numbered 711 aggregating 1,550,337 tons against 637 with a tonnage of 1,537,657 in 1927-28. Of the vessels entering, sailing ships numbered 95 of 12,433 tons, compared with 74 of 5,402 tons; of the vessels clearing, sailing ships numbered 139 of 16,991 tons against 122 of 13,688 tons in the previous year. The number of vessels entering Rangoon from foreign ports rose from 352 to 387 and their tonnage from 1,091,856 to 1,182,209; the number clearing for foreign ports also rose from 435 to 442 but their tonnage fell from 1,382,457 to 1,376,761. One sailing ship engaged in foreign trade with a total tonnage of 149 cleared from the port during the year against 2 with an aggregate tonnage of 459 in the previous year. No foreign sailing ship entered the port during the year of report.

The number of vessels engaged in the coasting trade which entered the ports of Burma rose from 3,485 to 3,809 and their aggregate tonnage from 4,324,650 to 4,824,645. The number of vessels which cleared, rose from 3,428 to 3,525 and their aggregate tonnage from 4,107,719 to 4,587,513. Of the vessels entering, sailing ships numbered 1,525 of 63,700 tons against 1,303 of 62,941 tons in 1927-28, and of those clearing, 1,319 of 55,853 tons were sailing ships against 1,300 of 58,709 tons in the previous year. Of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade 1,215 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 3,034,192 entered Rangoon against 1,133 with a tonnage 2,741,322 in the previous year; 1,145 steamers aggregating 2,783,439 tons cleared against 1,090 steamers of 2,548,181 tons in 1927-28. The number of sailing vessels that entered the port fell from 128 to 126 while their tonnage rose slightly from 10,219 to 10,325; the number of sailing vessels which cleared rose from 128 to 131 and their tonnage from 9,890 to 11,083.

The number of British vessels excluding native craft, which entered the ports of Burma from foreign countries rose from 319 to 435; native craft fell from 49 to 33. The number of foreign vessels, excluding native craft, rose by 11 to 140. Vessels under the Dutch, German and Norwegian flags rose from 35, 15 and 3 to 38, 22 and 14 respectively, while those under the Japanese, Italian and Danish flags fell from 66, 7 and 2 to 58, 2 and 1 respectively. There was one Swedish vessel as in the previous year, while Denmark which had sent two vessels to Burma in 1927-28, sent one in 1928-29. One Belgian and two American vessels visited the province during the year of report compared with none in the previous year.

In the coasting trade, the number of vessels entering with cargoes, which flew the British colours rose from 1,858 to 1,949; foreign craft fell from 168 to 136 and native craft rose from 1,084 to 1,175.

78 During the year of report casualties to sea-going vessels within the port of Rangoon numbered 11, all of a minor nature. Three of the vessels were in charge of licensed pilots and eight in charge of assistant harbour-masters. Departmental enquiries were held and resulted in one assistant harbour-master being warned and another being limited temporarily to the handling of ships not exceeding 430 feet overall. In the remaining cases no further action was found to be necessary as regards the pilots or assistant harbour-masters. A serious collision between a steam launch and a motor launch took place in the Rangoon river on the 30th April 1928, resulting in the sinking of the latter with the loss of one life. On enquiry it was found that the serang of the former was principally to blame for the collision which was entirely due to his having navigated his launch on the wrong side of the fairway and that the serang of the latter was also to blame as he failed to alter his course when the collision was imminent. The certificates of competency held by them were suspended for 18 months and 4 months respectively. Another minor collision involving 4 steam launches took place in the Rangoon Harbour with the result that the certificate of competency of one of the serangs, who was responsible for the accident was suspended for a period of one year.

Outside Rangoon, steamers and launches were involved in five collisions in the course of which an elderly man lost his life. In most of these cases the certificates of competency held by the serangs were suspended for varying periods according to the nature of the collision. The most important collision was the one between two steam launches near Shangon village, Wakema, which was brought about by the reckless navigation of one of the serangs in that he attempted to pass a steam launch which was ahead of his launch in a short and narrow reach between two sharp bends of the river, when it was not safe for him to do so. He was found guilty of a breach of the rules for the protection of inland steam or motor vessels and his certificate of competency was suspended for a period of three years. An appeal preferred to the Governor in Council praying for the order to be set aside was rejected.

79. The year opened with 206 Provincial marine vessels. Two vessels, viz. one paddle steamer and one steam launch were condemned and sold and 18 motor boats, one steam launch, 2 motor launches and one house boat were added to the fleet during the year, thus leaving

**Commercial Marine:
Wrecks and Casualties**

**Government Steamers
and Launches,**

a total of 226 vessels of all kinds at the end of the year. These were made up of 2 steam ships, 2 inland vessels, 74 steam launches, 1 steam barge, 115 motor boats and launches, 15 house boats, 14 flats and 3 barges. The vessels working under the various departments were satisfactorily engaged during the year and were maintained in a state of efficiency. The fuelling arrangements carried out by the Forest Department were, as usual, satisfactory. The value of stores received in the Marine Store Godowns at Mandalay and Bassein was Rs. 88,872 against Rs. 1,15,283 in the previous year.

80 In the port of Rangoon, the dredger, "Cormorant" worked mainly in the Damdaw reach, western approach and Monkey Point Channel and removed 675,000 tons of sand and silt, maintaining an average depth of $15\frac{1}{2}$ feet in all. The dredger "Hastings" worked on the berths at the wharves and jetties and removed 166,000 tons of silt. A few new surveys were undertaken and plotted during the year. The positions of 7 new beacons erected on the banks of the Pegu river to facilitate future surveys were also fixed. The surveys carried out during the year showed conspicuous changes in the approach to the river mouth and the neighbourhood of Hastings and Liffey shoals. In the former area the extension to the south-eastward of the shoal water fringing the coast had continued and the ship channel had in consequence been narrowed. The advance of the shoal had been most marked in the neighbourhood of the upper western buoy where the 12 feet contour advanced some 3,000 feet in 15 months. The changes in the Liffey and Hastings shoal areas were directly due to the influence of the King's Bank wall. A channel had formed along the face of the wall and after passing clear of the wall curved to the westward. There were two special surveys in progress. The erosion survey consisted of fortnightly examinations of the erosion of the river bank at 3 selected stations—one on the right bank of the Pegu river, one at Seikkyi and one between Deserter's creek and Elephant Point. The tidal stream survey was addressed to the double purpose of observing the run of the tidal streams in the mouth of the Pegu river, Monkey Point channel, Liffey reach and King's Bank channel and also to the detailed examination of the Liffey reach and its foreshore. The stream observations of this survey were very instructive and showed conclusively that the ebb stream which flows along the face of the King's Bank wall does not cross the Hastings shoal into the Liffey channel and that the erosion of the left bank of the river was not due to this portion of the ebb stream. Observations of the erosion of the high land were made monthly at 26 stations between Monkey Point and Elephant Point. The greatest annual erosion was at Elephant Point and amounted to 80 feet. At D'Silva light station it was 57 feet and at Deserter's creek light station 47 feet per annum.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

81. The occupied area of the Province increased by 65,500 acres to 20'46 million acres. The increases occurred, as usual, mostly in Lower Burma districts, the most noticeable being in Pegu (33,000 acres), followed by Myaungmya (18,000 acres), Amherst (13,000 acres) and

Occupied and Cultivated
Area

Bassein (11,000 acres). The area fallowed was 3,993,000 acres, or 20 *per cent.* of the occupied area, and shows a decrease of 85,000 acres over the previous year. The percentage of fallowed area in Lower and Upper Burma was 6·82 and 35·40, respectively. The increases in some of the Lower Burma districts were more than counterbalanced by decreases in the Upper Burma districts due to favourable rains, the biggest drop being in Shwebo (84,000 acres). The net area sown increased by 151,000 acres to 16·47 million acres, while the net matured area increased by 264,000 acres to 15·54 million acres. The area sown with rice increased from 11·70 to 12·06 million acres, the highest on record. The increase was due to the favourable early rains in Upper Burma. With the exception of Kyaukse every Upper Burma district shared in the increase, and Shwebo alone was responsible for a third of the increase. In Lower Burma the expansion of the area under rice received a check for the first time since 1920-21. The area sown was 24,000 acres less than last year. The floods in Maubin and cattle mortality in Akyab were the chief factors for this decline. Millet and sesamum continued to give place to groundnut. The area under groundnut has further increased by 58,800 acres to 598,800 acres. The area under beans has fallen by 64,800 acres due principally to the late and prolonged inundation of the bank of the Irrawaddy and to deficient late rains and partly to the success of the rice crop. The decline in the area under gram by 71,000 acres was due partly to promising early rains which induced cultivation to revert to rice and partly to the late fall in the level of the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers. Poor demand and low prices for cotton are reflected in the further shrinkage of the area under cotton. The area under early sesamum increased by 41,000 acres due chiefly to favourable early rains that gave promise of a good season, but the late crop decreased by 30,000 acres due mainly to deficient and ill-distributed late rains.

82 The net area irrigated was 1·51 million acres or an increase of 4·26 *per cent.* over the previous year. There was an increase of 4,100 acres in the area irrigated by Government canals. The decreases of 2,700 and 6,900 acres in the Kyaukse and Shwebo Districts, respectively, due to floods were more than counterbalanced by an increase of 8,800 acres in the Yamethin District due to favourable early and middle rains and to the re-classification of land, a large area regarded as irrigated by private canals having been classified at settlement as irrigated by Government canals. There was an increase of 6,900 acres in the area irrigated by private canals despite a reduction of 5,500 acres reported from the Yamethin District due to re-classification. The areas served by Government and private tanks rose by 17,500 and 21,800 acres, respectively. In spite of the reduction of the irrigated area in the Kyaukse District, the total irrigated area under rice (1,459,000 acres) rose by 58,900 acres, due to a favourable supply of water in a year of good early and middle rains.

During the year work was in progress on the new Salin and Sinbyugyun Canals in the Minbu District, the remodelling of the distributaries of the Pyaungbya and Paleik Canals in the Kyaukse District and the construction of the Tagundaing Tank in the Meiktila District. A feeder channel regulator to feed the Wetmasut Myaung and Wadi Tank in the Yamethin District were constructed. The construction of the

Yenatha Canal in the Mandalay District has been postponed indefinitely. The Tennyetkon weir in the Yamethin District which was washed away by floods in 1926 still remains unrepaired. The protection afforded by the Ela Protective Embankment which was extended last year is said to be highly appreciated by the cultivators of the locality. The area protected is 17 square miles.

83. During the year the posts of Agricultural Engineer and Mycologist were filled. The Agricultural Engineer devoted his time to the designing and improvement of agricultural implements and to the study of mechanical cultivation. The subordinate staff of the department was added to by 10 Assistants who graduated at the Mandalay Agricultural College and were subsequently sent for training to the Provincial Training College, Meiktila. At the end of the year there were 43 students in residence at the College; 20 in the first, 11 in the second and 12 in the third year. Little improvement was noticeable in the standard of entrants as out of the 20 students of the first year class 10 only passed at the end of the year. The discipline of the students was good. At the Pyinmana Agricultural School which is under the control of the American Baptist Mission the third class graduated in March 1929, the number of successful pupils being nine. At the end of the year there were 65 on the school roll. The total number of boys who finished the fourth year course and left the school since its inception in 1923 is only 35 and the Superintendent of the school reports that of these 16 are working their own land, 5 are occupied as teachers, 2 are fieldmen in the Agricultural Department, 2 are employed as clerks, 4 are working as overseers at the school, 1 is working as a motor driver, 2 have no occupation and with regard to the remaining 3 nothing is known. The farm schools at Hmawbi and Mahlaing were continued. At Hmawbi 10 pupils were taken in for a 9 months' course from 1st June 1928 and at Mahlaing 12 pupils were taken in about the same time and given a similar course of training. The courses are entirely practical and the students have to work with their own hands and engage in all the operations of the experimental farm. On return to their villages they act as *Akyosaungs* of the Agricultural Department. In addition to these farm schools short courses for adult cultivators were given at the experimental farms at Hmawbi, Mahlaing, Tatkon and Allannmyo.

A beginning was made with the layout of the Central farm at Kanbalu in the Shwabo District and buildings for this farm and also for the seed farms at Magwe, Chiba (Shwabo) and Kyehmon (Lower Chindwin) were put under construction. Those for the seed farms at Pyu, Henzada, Ma-ubin and Paungde were finished during the year. The sanction of Government was obtained to the proposals for the opening of new seed farms for the Kyaukse, Bassein and Pyapon Districts. The policy of getting areas excluded from grazing grounds and letting out to tenants for the purpose of producing pure seed was continued and at the end of the year 79 such areas amounting in all to 4,902 acres were excluded, of which 69 were under operation at the end of the year.

84. The work with fertilizers for paddy was continued at the Hmawbi, Akyab, Mudon and Myaungmya Central farms. A new fertilizer known as Leunaphos was tested. The results at Hmawbi were satisfactory in that the fertilizer,

The Agricultural
Department

Agricultural Research.

applied in increasing doses of from 50 to 400 lbs. per acre, gave a steady increase in grain yield varying from about 40 to 200 *per cent*. At the then price of paddy the optimum application was found to be 300 lbs. per acre which resulted in a net profit of Rs. 28 per acre due to the use of the fertilizer. Somewhat similar results were got at Mandalay but at Akyab and Mudon the results were negative and the cause of this is being further investigated. In the case of dry zone crops research work both in the field and in the laboratory was carried out on Sesamum, Beans, Gram, Cotton, Tobacco, Dhall (or Pesinngon) and Wheat. The Agricultural Chemist continued his work on the surveys of the soils of the Mandalay and Pegu Districts. This work was not finished at the end of the year. A survey of natural products likely to be capable of developing into local industries which was begun in the previous year had to be discontinued owing to pressure of work. A careful determination of the analyses of the oil content of groundnut varieties was made by the Agricultural Chemist, the highest content being obtained from the small Japanese variety grown at Tatkon. The variety of gram produced by the department and commented on in previous reports has practically ousted the former variety and the area under gram in the province rose to about 267,000 acres from 53,000 acres before the introduction of the new variety. The new white bean known as Moki Lima with which the department has been experimenting for the past three or four years was grown at various places in the dry zone and as mentioned in the last report trial shipments were sent to England and Japan. The result of the Japanese shipment was disappointing and the net price per basket obtained for the bean in Japan gave a return to the cultivators at Mahlaing of Rs. 3-13-0 only at a time when the Rangoon price of the ordinary white bean was quoted at Rs. 4-8-0. Japanese buyers would appear to be unable to pay a higher price than for Pelyugale. The shipment of five tons from the Yamethin District to London, however, resulted in producing a return to the cultivators at Tatkon, after all expenses were deducted, of Rs. 6-1-0 per basket of 69 lbs. This is very promising and steps will be taken to place the seed of this bean at the disposal of the cultivators and to introduce it into the general trade of the province. Of new plantation crops under trial the African Oil Palm has shown good growth on the upland laterite soils at both Hmawbi and Mudon and is now beginning to fruit at the former station. The Tung oil seed distributed last year has resulted in plants of healthy growth at Taunggyi, Maymyo and even on the plains at Hmawbi. It is however, too early to come to a decision as to the possibilities of this oil-producing tree. Sericultural operations were continued at Maymyo and at Paukkaung in the Prome District and it has been proved that the mulberry plant on which the silk-worm feeds can be grown quite well at the following places: Akyab, Hmawbi, Mudon, Tatkon and Mandalay. A beginning with an enquiry into the study of root and leaf diseases of the betel-vine was begun by the Mycologist.

85. The following are the kinds of seed and the quantities in lbs. distributed during the year :—

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| Seed Distribution and Demonstration. | Paddy 5,968,712, Cotton 438,536, Groundnut 93,158, Sesamum 28,449, Beans 94,824, Gram 128,294, Wheat 8,255, Millet 36,634, Miscellaneous 222,297 and Sugar-cane 132,410 (sets) |
|--------------------------------------|--|

For the purpose of seed distribution the department makes use of advances received from Government and the

seed distributed to the cultivators is either for cash or on credit, in the latter case the cultivator being called on to execute a bond binding himself to pay the cost at harvest. In the matter of implements 4,483 plough shares and 967 plough bodies were distributed during the year. This plough is the departmentally designed type known as the "Theikpan." It is supplied by a firm in Rangoon which imports it from Europe but it is now cast by a number of Burmese blacksmiths who work at various places throughout the province. The actual numbers in use by cultivators are perhaps considerably greater than the figures mentioned above. A considerable number of tractor sets are now in use in Lower Burma on the flooded areas along the river where the conditions are such as to enable ploughing to be done during the hot weather. In connection with fertilizers 116 demonstration plots were conducted during the year and a cultivators' leaflet on the use of manures was printed and 30,000 copies distributed to the public. A small beginning was made in the sale of these materials and two large commercial firms in Rangoon have obtained the agencies for the sale of them.

In the dry zone the demonstration work of the department consists chiefly in directing the attention of the cultivators to the advantages to be derived from the use of good seed, the winter ploughing of the land so as to enable the cultivator to take advantage of the first showers of the monsoon, the sowing of crops in rows and the use of implements for cultivating between the rows in order to keep down the weeds and conserve moisture. This line of work has given very promising results at the Mahlaing Agricultural Station where the yield of cotton per acre has practically doubled since the opening of the station. In this part of the country also a large number of demonstration holdings were organised. On these holdings the cultivators were shown not only the use of pure seed and drill-sowing but also how to re-align their holdings with bunds so as to prevent erosion and enable the best use to be made of the rainfall. This is one of the most promising lines of work in the dry zone.

Other publicity methods tried were the exhibiting of improved seed and implements at pagoda festivals and the holding of agricultural shows. The total number of agricultural shows held during the year ended the 31st March 1929 was fourteen. Now that the department has definite recommendations to make in the matter of seed, implements, fertilizers and improved methods of cultivation these shows are becoming annually of greater importance and attract more and more attention among the people of the tracts where they are held. They are also being increasingly utilized by Rangoon firms for the exhibition of agricultural machinery, such as tractors, pumps, chaff-cutters, sugarcane crushers and oil-engines.

Cultivators' leaflets on Tung oil, on the manuring of paddy lands for increased yields and on the improvement of paddy in Arakan were published during the year and a bulletin on the results obtained with fertilizers for paddy at the Hmawbi Agricultural Station was also prepared and distributed. Two agricultural surveys, one on the suitability of the coastal areas of the Arakan, Irrawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions for cocoanut cultivation and the other on the supply of plough cattle in Burma, were also published and put on sale at the Government Book Depôt. As before, the agricultural calendar continued its circulation and 6,922 copies were printed for sale and distribution.

86. The department remained under the Director of Agriculture during the year. The permanent superior staff of the department consisting of two members of the Indian Veterinary Service along with one member of the Burma Veterinary Service conducted the work of the four circles, the Arakan sub-circle and the Veterinary School, Insein. The rest of the staff consisted of 7 members of the Burma Veterinary Service, 28 Inspectors and 184 Veterinary Assistants. The special Research Officer who came on loan from the Union Government of South Africa remained on duty during the year in connection with the work on rinderpest and anthrax. Rules for the new Burma Veterinary Service, Class I, were framed and sanctioned by Government. These rules provide for a sanctioned staff as follows:—one Director of Veterinary Services, four Circle Officers or Deputy Directors, one Principal of the Veterinary College and two Research Officers. Attempts are being made to recruit the research officers and to fill the vacant posts of Deputy Directors.

On the 1st April 1928 there were thirteen pupils on the roll of the Insein Veterinary College and on 31st March 1929 the number remained the same. There are proposals before Government to replace the existing Veterinary Assistants by a cadre of men on the same pay as the present Veterinary Inspectors, to raise the standard of entrance to the College to the High School Final and to provide for the instruction to be in English instead of in Burmese as in the past. The orders of Government have not yet been received on these proposals and as a result recruitment to the Veterinary Assistant grade is at present in abeyance. The five posts of lecturers sanctioned for the College have also not yet been filled but are being advertised at present. The new students' hostel was taken over in August 1928 and has been occupied by the students since that date. The health of the students was good.

Refresher courses for Veterinary Assistants were started during the year. The first batch was given instruction from 1st September to 30th November 1928 and was attended by 19 Veterinary Assistants from the districts. The second course was from 15th December 1928 to 15th March 1929 and was attended by 21 Assistants. The courses consisted of hospital practice, attendance at certain of the final year lectures and special lectures in contagious diseases, serum and vaccine therapy and the rules and regulations dealing with disease of animals in Burma.

87. There was a decided diminution in the number of deaths from contagious diseases during the year. Deaths from rinderpest amounted to 22,061 against 38,385 in the previous year. The figures for foot-and-mouth were also slightly less.

The mortality from rinderpest was greatest in the Akyab (15,419 deaths), Amherst (2,861), Henzada (939), Thathon (915) and Bassein (606) Districts. In Bassein and Katha the outbreaks were controlled by energetic action on the part of Deputy Commissioners who applied rigorously the Cattle Disease Rules of the Village Act and also by inoculation work carried out by the Veterinary Department officers. The question of introducing the serum-simultaneous method of inoculation for this disease has engaged the attention of the special Research Officer. During the year he was able to work out the technique of the

method and inoculated the cattle at the Hmawbi Agricultural Station and at the Pinjrapole Society's Dépôt near Rangoon. The total number of animals inoculated against this disease by the serum alone method was 106,478 as compared with 96,070 in 1927-28, the total cost of serum purchased from India during the year amounting to Rs. 1,91,255. Of other contagious diseases anthrax and foot-and-mouth were the principal. The greatest number of deaths recorded from anthrax occurred in the Akyab District which had 413. An outbreak of this disease occurred among horses in Rangoon and an investigation was made into the matter by the special Research Officer. A bulletin on this disease was prepared by the latter for circulation among the owners of horses and other animals liable to anthrax. The special Research Officer was also engaged in the preparation of a special vaccine for the prevention of this disease and conducted with this several successful laboratory tests. During the coming year crucial tests will be made with this vaccine on buffaloes and elephants.

Twelve reports of outbreaks of surra were received from the Military Police and the total deaths recorded from this disease were 66.

The reports of Deputy Commissioners appear to indicate that the Cattle Disease Rules of the Burma Village Act are well understood by headmen and that in some localities at least they are conscientiously and efficiently followed. In others, however, as in Akyab it is practically impossible to enforce them completely because of local customs in the handling of stock. The presence of large herds of Indian cattle which are more or less outside the control of the headmen adds to the difficulties of enforcing these rules. The question of improving these rules and also of introducing entirely new legislation for dealing with cattle disease is at present under consideration.

88. The number of oxen showed an increase of 49,000 over the previous year and represents a return to the normal rate of increase which had slowed down during the last two years. The increase in the stock of buffaloes, sheep and goats was normal. The decrease in the stock of pigs is due mainly to the heavy mortality in the Bassein District. While the number of colts and fillies remained stationary, there was a decrease in the number of geldings and stallions due to the extension of motor transport. As has been noticed in previous years the return of livestock, which is based on practically unchecked figures by village headmen, must be treated with caution.

89. Excluding loans to Co-operative Societies and to tenants of Government Estates, advances under the Agricultural Loans Act, 1884, amounted to Rs. 16'99 lakhs compared with Rs. 15'35 lakhs in 1927-28 and Rs. 21'97 lakhs in 1926-27. Out of Rs. 26'51 lakhs due for collection during the year Rs. 16'57 lakhs or Rs. 0'50 lakh less than the preceding year was actually collected, and the amount overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 7'15 lakhs or Rs. 0'43 lakh more than the preceding year. The amount remitted, Rs. 5,478, was less than the preceding year by Rs. 1,084 and the amount suspended fell from Rs. 3'68 lakhs to Rs. 3'33 lakhs. Arrears of interest overdue increased from Rs. 0'52 lakh to Rs. 0'58 lakh. The largest advances were taken by Akyab, Pegu and Sagaing Districts, each of which drew over a lakh of rupees.

while Tharrawaddy, Prome, Minbu, Magwe, Pakôkku, Meiktila, Yamèthin, Shwebo, Katha and Lower Chindwin Districts each took more than half a *lakh*. In general the loans were popular among cultivators and were used for the purpose they were taken.

90. The areas cultivated under the protection of embankments in the charge of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department rose from 1,174,486 acres to 1,216,429 acres the increase being due to the improved drainage of the areas, in the Pyuntaza Plain as a result of the river training carried out in that locality. The floods in the Irrawaddy were characterised by three rises above the danger level (42'00) at Henzada of which the one occurring at the end of August attained record heights down the river from Henzada to Thongwa Island and exceeded the record flood of 1905 at Henzada by 0.33 foot. The rise at the end of October remained above the danger level at Henzada from the 21st to the 30th and owing to the lateness of the season caused losses in cultivation in the lowlying areas where late planting is customary. The rainfall in the Irrawaddy Delta, although normal for the whole season, was badly distributed, being excessive in June and July, and deficient in October and November. Three slips occurred and were successfully dealt with, of which only one was serious. In the Pegu District the season on the whole was normal, there being no serious floods or breaches.

The gross revenue amounted to Rs. 19.81 *lakhs* against Rs. 19.30 *lakhs* in the previous year, the increase being due to the revenue obtained from the areas in the Pyuntaza Plain, where protection to crops has been afforded as a result of the river training operations. The working expenses rose from Rs. 11.25 *lakhs* to Rs. 15.82 *lakhs*, thereby causing the net receipts to fall from Rs. 8.05 *lakhs* to Rs. 3.99 *lakhs*. The rise in working expenses was due to large expenditure on special repair works necessitated by the high floods and severe erosions of the previous year.

Good progress was made on raising and strengthening the embankments. The Maubin Embankment is being extended from Bhamau to Shwedaungmaw, the work being well advanced at the close of the year. A start was also made on extending the Tamatakaw Embankment owing to inroads of the sea. Retirements and protection works were carried out wherever necessary.

Weather and Crops.

91. Except in the Arakan Division the season was a poor one for the rice crop in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the weather conditions were generally favourable for rice and fair to moderate for dry crops, except in the Meiktila and Sagaing Districts where the season was bad. The monsoon broke generally earlier than usual. The early rains were good everywhere and in Upper Burma resulted in an appreciable increase in the area sown with early drop crops. The middle rains in July and August were generally good in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma they were poor in Meiktila District and throughout the Magwe Division except Pakôkku District; elsewhere

they were good and even excessive in certain districts causing breaches in the irrigation works in the Shwebo District and considerable damage to the railway embankment in Sagaing. The late rains failed almost everywhere. In Lower Burma they were good only in the northern districts of the Arakan Division and in Mergui. In Upper Burma they were good in the wet zone and in Shwebo. Elsewhere they were poor and the dry crops suffered severely from prolonged periods of drought especially in the Magwe and Mandalay Divisions.

The rise of the Kaladan in Arakan was normal. The early and abnormal rises in the Irrawaddy and the Chindwin in September and October resulted in extensive damage to crops in Ma-ubin, Henzada, Prome, Mandalay and Myingyan and in the last named district the prolonged duration of the floods prevented the cultivation of large areas of inundated land. The phenomenal rainfall of July and August in the Sagaing Division resulted in the breaching of canal banks in the Shwebo District.

92 The percentage of the normal yield of paddy in 1928-29 was
 Outturn and Prices estimated at 99 against 102 in the previous year and 106 in 1926-27. The matured area (11,624,000 acres) was 492,000 acres more than in the previous year and in consequence the estimated gross outturn of unhusked paddy rose from 6'90 to 7'01 million tons despite the reduction in the condition figure. The final forecast for the year 1928 (season 1927-28), estimated an exportable surplus of rice and rice products at 3,016,000 tons, while the actual exports during the year (1st January to 31st December 1928) were 2'96 million tons (Morrison's Report). The estimate for the calendar year 1929 placed the exportable surplus at 2,880,000 tons of rice and rice products. The actual exports for the year ending 31st December 1929 were 2,941,000 tons (Morrison's Report). The year witnessed a further decline in paddy prices. The average price at Rangoon for boat and rail paddy for the harvest months, January to March was Rs. 159 and Rs. 157, respectively, in 1929, as compared with Rs. 169 and Rs. 166 in 1928. In the second quarter there was a slight recovery to an average of Rs. 165 for boat paddy and Rs. 159 for rail paddy which in both cases is Rs. 4 per 100 baskets higher than the average price for the corresponding period in the previous year. At the beginning of the year of report, July 1928, the price of boat paddy in Rangoon was Rs. 157 per 100 baskets. For the next two months it remained at the very low level of Rs. 160, or thirty rupees lower than during the corresponding period of the previous year, and ten rupees lower than the level of prices for the harvest months January to March. With an improvement in the demand for rice from the Straits the price of paddy rose to Rs. 170 in the middle of September and reached Rs. 192 towards the end of November. Supplies however dwindled rapidly from the beginning of October and were practically exhausted by the end of November, so that the proportion of the crop disposed of at the higher prices was small. The price for the new crop opened in the third week of December at Rs. 169, but dropped to Rs. 162 in January. Thereafter there was a gradual decline until the price stood at Rs. 154 at the end of March. During April there was an upward trend and by the third week in May the price had reached the level of Rs. 170, where it remained until the end of June when there was a further advance to Rs. 175. The year of report accordingly closed with prices standing about twenty rupees higher than in the previous

year. Last year the cultivator disposed of his produce at not unsatisfactory prices. The really serious fall in prices began about the end of March and became accentuated about the end of May with the result that the bulk of the loss was borne by the traders. This year conditions have been reversed. Prices during the harvest months were low, but there has been a marked improvement since the second week in May from which stockholders must have benefited. There has been no increase in exports to Europe, but there has been a substantial improvement in exports to Java during the current year. On the other hand, following on a good rice harvest in Bengal, exports to Calcutta and Chittagong have fallen away from the high figures reached last year. Compared with last year there have been noticeable decreases in the harvest prices of sesamum, groundnut, millet and maize. The yield of the sesamum crop, although below that of the year previous, is reported to have been in excess of the demand. The decrease in the price of groundnut is generally reported to be due to overproduction. The decline in the prices of millet and maize is ascribed to a decrease in the demand for these grains as an item of diet amongst a large section of the agricultural population of Upper Burma owing to the substitution of rice which was obtainable at cheaper rates than usual. The prices of large and small white beans, red beans and gram show marked recovery from the fall in prices noticed last year. In the case of the three varieties of beans the higher prices obtained this year are due to increased demands by speculators and traders operating in the European, Indian and Japanese markets. The higher price paid for gram is probably due to the substantial decrease in the area under the crop. The price obtained for tobacco is slightly lower than last year. On the other hand, the improvement in price of cotton noticed in 1928, has been maintained during the current year except in Thayetmyo and Sagaing which report rather lower prices.

Co-operation.

93. The principal feature of the year was the tightening up of the control and supervision of societies as directed by the Government of Burma in 1927-28, in part pursuance of which an enquiry was made by the Committee on Co-operation in Burma, with Mr. H. Calvert, C.I.E., I C.S., as Chairman. A report was published after the close of the year, together with a resolution setting forth the conclusions of the Government of Burma regarding the Committee's recommendations. The Committee made a whole-hearted effort to get at the root of the present troubles which beset the Co-operative Movement in Burma and its valuable recommendations for improvement are largely being brought into effect. The Department was almost wholly engaged with the liquidation of over 1,500 societies, resulting from the failure of previous efforts to stimulate repayments. In addition the officers of the Department had still, of necessity, to be in close contact with over 4,000 living societies of all kinds, including 2,856 Agricultural Credit Societies.

For the reasons stated above there could be no question of propaganda or extension to new areas.

Closer control and supervision of the living societies resulted in payment of 31 per cent. or Rs 23.48 lakhs by 2,856 Agricultural Credit Societies to their financing Banks whose total outstanding loan at the beginning of the year was Rs. 75.70 lakhs.

The results of liquidation work during the year are summarised in the following statement :—

Class I.—Credit Societies in Liquidation.

(Agricultural and Non-Agricultural.)

| | Rs. |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Liabilities (principal only) on the 30th June 1928 .. | 36,98,140 |
| 2. Liabilities discharged during the year ... | 6,48,478 |
| 3. Liabilities on the 30th June 1929 (including fresh liabilities of 471 societies put into liquidation during the year) ... | 57,85,617 |
| 4. Percentage of 2 to 3 .. | 11.20 per cent. |

Class II.—Non-Credit Societies in Liquidation.

(Agricultural and Non-Agricultural.)

| | Rs. |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Liabilities (principal only) on the 30th June 1928 ... | 2,65,409 |
| 2. Liabilities discharged during the year ... | 3,493 |
| 3. Liabilities as on the 30th June 1929 (including fresh liabilities of societies put into liquidation during the year) ... | 3,44,806 |
| 4. Percentage of 2 to 3 .. | 1.01 per cent. |

Total membership declined from 137,328 to 114,620 ; deposits by members increased from Rs. 12.37 lakhs to Rs. 12.43 lakhs but those by non-members fell from Rs. 144.52 lakhs to Rs. 41.44 lakhs

The Calvert Committee recommended that the Burma Provincial Co-operative Bank be ordered to be wound up forthwith. Government however agreed to accept responsibility for making good the deficit of the Bank's assets in order to provide for the payment of depositors, and decided that the Bank should not be put into liquidation forthwith but should be allowed to wind up its affairs gradually. The Bank Head Office building at Mandalay was burnt by fire on the night of the 19th-20th June 1929 and the great bulk of its records, including important "Key" ledgers, was destroyed and the consequent reconstruction of the ledgers proved to be a task laborious and difficult in the extreme. It may be added that there can be no doubt that the fire was due to incendiarism. An employee of the Bank and another person were put on trial but, after conviction in the original Court, were acquitted on appeal.

94. At the end of paragraph 93 above, mention has been made of the position of the Burma Provincial Co-operative Bank, Limited. According to the statement of the Bank's affairs as on the 30th June 1929, as supplied by Messrs Allan Charlesworth & Co, Chartered Accountants, who reconstructed the ledgers, the share capital was reduced by Rs. 76,100 due to the refund of shares to societies in liquidation and the adjustment of shares with loans due. Fixed deposits fell from Rs. 70 lakhs to Rs. 63 lakhs during the year due to repayment of deposits as they fell due, and to the Bank accepting no new deposits in view of the intention to wind up its affairs.

The Bank's sole business during the year was to collect its debts with the help of the Co-operative Department, and to repay Fixed Deposits on due dates. The number of Central Banks was reduced

from 21 to 14 as 3 Central and 4 Township Banks were put into liquidation. The 14 remaining Banks comprised 8 District Central Banks, 3 Township Banks, 2 Savings Banks and the Sittang Colonies Banking Union. Of the District Banks, Pynmana (Yamethin District) and Myingyan continued to work on a small scale, and in fact did very little new business during the year, being mainly concerned (like most of the District Banks) with recovering stale loans from their affiliated societies.

Pegu, Henzada, Prome and Moulmein did well, and maintained a normal level of profit. Of the three Township Banks, Nattalin and Zigôn did fairly well, while Singaing continued moribund.

The Sittang Colonies Banking Union, which is under the charge of the Administrator of Government Estates, continued to do good business and netted a profit of Rs. 73,931 during the year. The working capital of the Bank at the end of the year 1928-29 was nearly Rs. 12½ lakhs of which over Rs. 8½ lakhs was its own.

95 The number of Agricultural Credit Societies fell to 2,856, owing to the dissolution of 471 societies during the year. Only 10 new societies were registered, as no propaganda work could be done by the officers of the Department who were fully engaged in liquidation work. Loans and deposits received by these 2,856 societies from individuals during the year amounted to Rs. 3.28 lakhs as against Rs. 3.71 lakhs during the previous year.

The percentages of repayments by districts varied considerably, (a) by members to societies 6.49 (Sagang), 3.31 (Magwe), 6.71 (Myingyan), 40.16 (Amherst), 41.50 (Akyah) and 45.49 (Tavoy) and (b) by Societies to Banks 5.22 (Sagang), 3.95 (Myitkyina), 7.98 (Lower Chindwin), 52.57 (Myaungmya), 51.23 (Tharrawaddy) and 51.24 (Prome). There was a marked decline in repayments to Banks from Maubin, Pyapôn, Hanthawaddy, Bharmo, Myitkyina and Lower Chindwin Districts.

There was a total profit of Rs. 3,01,690 as against a total loss of Rs. 97,756 in the previous year.

The average expenditure on management per member has fallen from Rs. 5.2 in 1927-28 to Rs. 4.02 in 1928-29. This reduction in the average cost per member of management expenses is fairly satisfactory but is less than was hoped for.

96. At the end of the year 1927-28 there were 121 Urban Societies including 17 wound up but not yet disregistered. At the end of the year under report there were thus 94 alive as against 104 at the end of the previous year. Share capital decreased by Rs. 1.51 lakhs and reserve fund from Rs. 4.25 lakhs to Rs. 3.81 lakhs. Net profits, however, increased from Rs. 47,038 to Rs. 97,828 owing to good repayments. The Urban Range Officers kept themselves in close touch with the Urban Societies and the Department is now much better informed about their working. The Officer-in-charge of Urban Societies commends the work of the Maubin Town Bank, Nyaunglebin Town Bank and the Bengalee Urban Co-operative Society.

There were 63 Salary Earners Societies at the end of the year under report, as against 68 at the end of the previous year. Four new societies were registered and 9 societies were wound up during the

year under report. The societies in Rangoon are well managed as usual, and the Police Societies continue to show steady progress. Cattle Insurance Societies decreased from 389 to 376. The risks insured fell from Rs. 19,680 to Rs. 5,005. Premia collected during the year (from 6 societies in the Mandalay District) totalled Rs. 344 only. The Department has kept in view the recommendations of the Hon'ble Forest Minister's Committee arising out of the Calvert Committee's criticisms upon this branch of Co-operative activity, and, when the officers of the Department are released from the more important liquidation work with which they are at present engaged this will be one of the first problems to be dealt with. The number of Co-operative Stores remained at five of which three in Rangoon were doing fairly good work and had netted a profit of Rs. 1,701. Of the three registered Bazaar Societies two only are doing business. The number of Class IV (Production and Sale) Societies decreased to 15 and of these 14 were under the charge of the Superintendent of Cottage Industries. The remaining society, namely, the Pegu Rice Milling and Trading Society, made a profit of Rs. 19,256 for the year.

Horticulture.

97. During 1928, 19 members joined the society and 31 resigned, leaving 210 members, including *ex-officio* members, at the end of the year. As a result of the Government grant of Rs. 15,000 per annum for five years substantial improvements have been effected. Attention was largely concentrated during the year on the outward appearance of the property as this was undoubtedly necessary. Seeds were imported from England, as usual, and while the percentage of germination was high the flowers were of fair quality. No flower show was held but a garden competition took place in February 1928 and the School Gardens' show was held on the 2nd February 1929.

Forests.

98. The total area of reserved forests at the end of the year was 32,257 square miles (Burma 29,190 ; Federated Shan States 3,067) as against 32,128 (Burma 29,061 ; F.S.S. 3,067) at the end of the preceding year and the area of unclassified forests was estimated at 115,325 square miles (Burma 93,784 ; F.S.S. 21,541) as against 115,346 (Burma 93,805 ; F.S.S. 21,541) at the end of the preceding year. One hundred and forty-four square miles (all in Burma) of new reserves were settled during the year as against 453 (all in Burma) in the previous year leaving a balance, after abandonment of 4 square miles and exclusion of 26 square miles by recomputation, of 1,683 square miles (Burma 1,619 ; F.S.S. 64) to be settled and new proposals covering 464 square miles (Burma 434 ; F.S.S. 30) were added during the year. Demarcation of 372 miles (Burma 357 ; F.S.S. 15) of exterior boundaries was carried out at a cost of Rs. 5,865 (Burma 5,306 ; F.S.S. 559) and 3,593 miles (Burma 3,316 ; F.S.S. 277) of pre-existing boundaries were repaired at a cost of Rs. 35,349 (Burma 33,505 ; F.S.S. 1,844). At the close of the year 157 miles (all in Burma) of new boundary remained to

be demarcated. The survey of India completed the survey or resurvey on the one-inch scale (at no cost to the Forest Department) of 985 square miles (all in Burma) of reserved forest, and also, in conjunction with a special Forest Survey Party of 286 square miles (Reserved Forest 281 and Unclassed Forests 5) all in Burma) of new surveys on the four-inch scale. During the year five Working Plan Parties (all in Burma) examined 785 square miles enumerating 26 *per cent.* of 515 square miles, 22 *per cent.* of 107 square miles and 20 *per cent.* of 163 square miles. During the year new plans for 995 square miles and revised plans for 376 square miles (all in Burma) were sanctioned.

99 Eleven thousand one hundred and forty-two forest offences (Burma 11,000; F.S.S. 142) were reported as against an average of 10,163 (Burma 10,022; F.S.S. 141) for the previous three years. As usual the great majority were unauthorised fellings or removals. One thousand nine hundred and six cases (Burma 1,900; F.S.S. 6) involving 2,866 persons (Burma 2,862; F.S.S. 4) were taken to court, the percentage of convictions being 90.3 as against 91.8 in the previous year. Fire-protection was again restricted to areas where its application could be justified on silvicultural grounds, the total area under protection being 82,168 acres (Burma 79,482; F.S.S. 2,686) of which 94.1 *per cent.* in Burma and the whole area in the F.S.S. were successfully protected. Of the reserved forests 24,252 square miles (Burma 22,044; F.S.S. 2,208) were closed entirely to grazing as against 24,081 (Burma 21,873; F.S.S. 2,208) in the previous year; while 4,509 square miles (Burma 4,448; F.S.S. 61) for part of the year as against 4,633 square miles (Burma 4,572; F.S.S. 61) and 3,172 square miles (Burma 2,455; F.S.S. 717) for the whole year as against 3,105 square miles (Burma 2,388; F.S.S. 717) in the previous year were open to all animals except browsers.

100. The total expenditure on roads and buildings amounted to Rs. 9.38 lakhs (Burma 9.11; F.S.S. 0.27) as against Rs. 8.22 lakhs (Burma 7.94; F.S.S. 0.28) in the previous year; and a further sum of Rs. 0.71 lakh (Burma 0.57; F.S.S. 0.14) was spent by lessees on roads. New cart roads totalling 191 miles (Burma 186; F.S.S. 5) cost Rs. 2.92 lakhs (Burma 2.86; F.S.S. 0.06) new bridle paths totalling 168 miles (Burma 161; F.S.S. 7) cost Rs. 0.91 lakh (Burma 0.88; F.S.S. 0.03) and new buildings cost Rs. 2.54 lakhs (Burma 2.47; F.S.S. 0.07).

The total book area of plantations at the end of the year was 130,799 acres (Burma 129,961; F.S.S. 838) as against 126,420 (Burma 125,937; F.S.S. 483) at the end of the previous year. New plantations covered 4,824 acres (Burma 4,466; F.S.S. 358) as against 2,957 (Burma 2,637; F.S.S. 320) in the preceding year. Climber cutting was carried out over 204,814 acres (all in Burma) as against 128,500 acres (all in Burma) in the previous year and improvement fellings and the felling of ficus-bound trees over 156,656 acres (Burma 153,761; F.S.S. 2,875) as against 145,767 acres (Burma 142,311; F.S.S. 3,456) last year. The total expenditure for the year on regeneration and silvicultural operations for the improvement of the forest was Rs. 3.28 lakhs (Burma 2.44; F.S.S. 0.84) as against Rs. 2.74 lakhs (Burma 2.39; F.S.S. 0.35) in the previous year.

101. The total outturn of teak by lessees was 352,113 tons (Burma 309,965 ; F.S.S. 42,148) as against 386,580 tons (Burma 341,963 F.S.S. 44,617) last year. **Exploitation of Timber** Extraction of teak by licensees and departmental extraction by Government totalled 45,497 tons (Burma 43,446 F.S.S. 2,051) and 80,908 tons (Burma 80,858, F.S.S. 50), respectively, as against 53,668 (Burma 49,891 ; F.S.S. 3,777) and 50,366 tons (Burma 50,344 ; F.S.S. 22), respectively, last year. The total extraction of timber other than teak was 570,173 tons (Burma 514,769 ; F.S.S. 55,404) as against 627,187 tons (Burma 578,065 ; F.S.S. 49,122) last year, and the total outturn of fuel was 992,789 tons (Burma 974,335 ; F.S.S. 18,454) as against, 118,176 tons (Burma 1,098,458 ; F.S.S. 19,718) last year. Departmental extraction proper was confined to the extraction of teak from the area of the Myittha Extraction Division and the increased outturn of teak by Government Agency is due to a larger number of logs being measured and taken over. The decrease in the outturn of timber other than teak is due to trade depression and of fuel to the use of coal by the major consuming agencies. As usual the bulk of the teak exports (196,301 tons as against 237,798 tons last year) was sent to Indian ports. The decrease is attributed to economic conditions in that country.

The forest revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 181 05 *lakhs* (Burma 160 79 ; F.S.S. 20 26) against Rs. 224 34 *lakhs* (Burma 208 15 ; F.S.S. 16 19) and the expenditure to Rs. 84 35 *lakhs* (Burma 79 68 ; F.S.S. 4 67) against Rs. 93 48 *lakhs* (Burma 88 98 ; F.S.S. 4 50) in the previous year. The net surplus was Rs. 96 70 *lakhs* (Burma 81 11 ; F.S.S. 15 59) against Rs. 130 86 *lakhs* (Burma 119 17 ; F.S.S. 11 69) in the previous year. The decrease in revenue was due partly to the commercialization of the accounts of the Utilization Circle and partly to a poor floating season for teak and trade depression for other species of timber. The decrease in expenditure was mainly due to the accounts of the Utilization Circle having been brought on to a commercial basis.

Mines and Quarries

102 In the year under report the number of working mines coming within the scope of the Indian Mines Act, 1923, including quarries, was 371, as compared with 234 in 1926. These mines were worked in the Tavoy, Mergui, Amherst, Thaton, Toungoo, Henzada, Bassein, Mandalay and Katha Districts, and in the Northern and Southern Shan States. In the Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui Districts the mines are for the most part tin mines, and the large increase in the number of mines at work is attributed to the rise in the price of tin. The Southern Shan States mines extract silver and lead ore, and the Northern Shan States mines, silver, lead, zinc and iron ore. In most of the other districts, with the exception of the Ruby Mines in the Katha District, the so-called mines are, for the most part, open stone quarries. Mechanics and skilled labourers are imported from Rangoon and India. Unskilled labour is for the most part Indian, but is recruited in general in the neighbourhood of the mine. The Namtu-Bawdwin mine, however, attracts Yunnanese and Gurkhas, the Ruby Mines employ Maingthas, and in Tavoy and Mergui the workers are mostly Chinese and Indians. Here and there a few Uryas are imported from India. Two stone quarries in Toungoo and one in Thaton are worked by convict labour and ticket-of-leave prisoners. In no district are

children employed in mines. Women are employed only to a small extent and then on light work and always above ground. The hours of work vary. At the tin mines the labourers are usually employed on the tribute system and determine their own hours. On the dredgers work is organized in three shifts of eight hours each. At Nanttu the shifts are also eight hours except in the machine shops where the period is nine hours. In the Ruby Mines the working shift is reported to be 9½ hours. Wages vary with the locality. In the Southern Shan States the ordinary rates are 8 annas for women slag pickers, Re 1 for male surface workers and Rs. 1-4-0 for unskilled workers under ground. In the Northern Shan States the monthly average is Rs 37-8-0. In Tavoy and Mergui an Indian cooly earns Rs 1-4-0 a day and a Chinese Rs 2. A tributer is paid Re 1 per viss of tin ore. Women employed on the surface in a quarry earn about annas 12 a day. The relations between labourers and employers were good and there were no strikes in any mine during the year under review. In Mergui and Tavoy and in the Northern Shan States, malaria is prevalent in the rains. Two of the mines in Tavoy are equipped with efficient dispensaries. Other mines in this district and in Mergui keep stocks of quinine and other useful medicines and first-aid appliances. At Nanttu good medical facilities are provided. Labourers are usually provided with free quarters. Sanitary condition and housing accommodation, were in general satisfactory. The bad conditions in the Yinnyem quarries of the Thaton District referred to in the report of the previous year have been improved and medical aid is now provided by the mine owners. The cooly barracks at Taungpila in the Tavoy District are reported to be in a highly insanitary and dilapidated condition. Much can still be done to lessen the overcrowding of labour camps in Tavoy. At Nanttu both the Taungpeng and the Hsenwi States employ large sanitary gangs, and so does the Burma Corporation. A large number of accidents, 70 under ground and 468 above ground, was reported from the Burma Corporation Mines in the Northern Shan States. Of these, 13 proved fatal, 114 were serious and 411 slight. No less than 452 of these accidents occurred on the railway line or in factories. There were 47 accidents, in the Tavoy, Toungoo, Thaton, Mergui and Katha Districts and in the Southern Shan States. Of these 13 were fatal, 33 serious and 1 slight. Falls of rock accounted for most of the fatal accidents. There were 3 prosecutions under the Indian Mines Act and 1 under the Indian Explosive Act in the Thaton District. The accused in all the cases were convicted. In the Mergui District there were 3 prosecutions under section 36 of the Indian Mines Act but the cases proved abortive as the accused could not be traced.

103 At the end of 1928, the number of concessions held was 380, of which 191 were held under mining leases and 189 under prospecting licenses. One hundred and eighty-one concessions were granted during the year, of which 102 were new concessions to prospect for minerals, 65 were renewals of previously granted prospecting licenses and 14 were mining leases. Sixty-six of the concessions granted related to tin, wolfram and allied minerals, 44 to unspecified minerals except natural petroleum, 32 to natural petroleum, 32 to tin alone, 3 to iron ore, 2 to coal, and 2 to lead and silver ore. Six mining leases for tin, wolfram and allied

minerals, two mining leases for tin and one mining lease for all minerals except oil, were surrendered during the year. Two mining leases for tin and wolfram, one mining lease for tin, one mining lease for natural petroleum, and one mining lease for graphite were cancelled for non-payment of dead rents and royalties. Another mining lease for tin was cancelled on account of the lessee's entering into a working agreement with another company without the prior sanction of the Local Government. One mining lease for oil was cancelled for non-development of the concession. Another mining lease for natural petroleum was cancelled for failure on the lessee's part to pay the required survey fees. A lease to quarry marble was cancelled during the year for the non-working of the area. Amendments were made during the year in the Mineral Concessions Directions, prescribing that after the issue of a prospecting license or mining lease has been sanctioned, no remission, or writing off, or refund, of acreage fee paid or payable in respect of the license, or of dead or surface rent paid or payable under the lease, or of royalty paid or payable under the license or lease, shall be made by a Collector without prior reference to the Commissioner if in excess of Rs. 500 and to the Financial Commissioner (Reserved Subjects) through the Commissioner, if in excess of Rs. 1,500.

104. The output of petroleum increased from 246 to 262 million gallons but the value decreased from Rs. 5 22 crores to Rs. 4 91 crores. The decrease in production in the Yenangaung field continued. A number of new wells were put to production at Indaw (Upper Chindwin District) and Lanywa (Pakokku District) and in the Singu and Minbu fields.

105. The output of lead ore and silver declined from 454,733 tons to 446,862 tons. The production of the Burma Lead and Silver Corporation, Limited, during the year was less than that for the previous year. The Corporation's smelting and refining operations resulted in a production of 77,143 tons of refined lead, 1,242 tons of antimonial lead, 64,122 tons of zinc concentrates, 10,978 tons of copper matte and 7,404,728 troy ounces of refined silver. The Bawsaing Mines of the Shan States Silver Lead Corporation produced 910 tons of lead ore while Messrs Steel Bros & Co's concession at Mawson produced 2,397 tons of galena.

106. The production of rubies fell from 35,230 carats in 1927 to 32,010 carats in 1928, while that of sapphires increased from 2,890 carats to 4,500 carats and that of spinels from 1,470 carats to 3,870 carats. These figures refer only to the rubies, sapphires and spinels from the Burma Ruby Mines, Limited. The company ceased to work their Kyaungdwin Mine as the ground proved poor and the Company incurred a loss during the greater part of the year. The Enjouk Mine of the Company also proved disappointing and work there was suspended. The Kathe Mine, however, was more profitable and continued to be worked.

107. The production of tin concentrates rose from 3,220 tons valued at Rs. 54 99 lakhs in 1927 to 3,522 tons valued at Rs. 51 59 lakhs in 1928. The output was a little more than that of the previous year and Tavoy contributed mainly

to the increase. The output of wolfram rose from 166 tons in 1927 to 445 tons in 1928. The price of wolfram was low but rose during the year. The output of iron-ore was 74,813 tons in 1928 against 56,204 tons in 1927. All this ore was produced by the Burma Corporation, Limited, and was used as a flux in their smelter at Namtu. During 1928 the quantity of amber imported from the unadministered territory in the Hukong Valley was less than that of the preceding year but the quality was superior. The quantity of jadeite quarried amounted to 2,845 cwt. but was of an inferior quality. About 71 oz of gold were obtained in the Katha and Upper Chindwin Districts.

108 Building materials and road metal extracted in 1928 amounted to 2,091,488 tons, an increase of about 220,000 tons over the output for 1927, due to greater demands by the Public Works Department, Municipalities, District Councils and the Burma Railways. There was an increase in the output of clay for pottery in the Sandoway District, due to the non-importation of pots from other districts. There was, however, a decrease in the number of pot makers in the Bassein, Myaungmya, Pakokku and the Magwe Districts owing to the falling off in the demand for pots. The output of soap-sand was less than that for the previous year, due to the unusual rains. The increase in the value of the soap-sand may be ascribed to the smaller supply available, especially in Mawlaik and Thazi Townships.

Manufactures.

109. The industrial element forms only a small part of the population; the great majority of the people are engaged in agriculture. The most important industries in 1928, as in previous years, were, rice-milling, petroleum winning and refining, the extraction and conversion of timber, mining and transport. There was an increase of 1025 to 41,327 in the number of persons employed in rice-mills, but the number of persons employed in saw-mills decreased by 831 to 14,526. The total number of persons employed by different industries increased by 233 to 101,586. In last year's report there was a note on a proposal to extend the Act to places employing between ten and twenty persons. This has had to remain in abeyance. In the year under review only about three-quarters of the registered factories were inspected and very few revisits could be made. Even some fatal accidents had to remain uninvestigated, and until the staff, which is at present inadequate, to deal with the factories already on the books, can be increased, it does not appear expedient to increase the responsibilities of the department by bringing on to the registers a lot of small places, which will either have to remain unvisited or could only be visited if larger and more important factories were left uninspected.

110. There were 968 working factories registered at the end of the year as against 940 in the previous year. The majority of the new factories were small rice and saw-mills. Registered rice-mills rose in number from 572 to 606 but the number of saw-mills decreased by 10 to 164. The number of women employed decreased slightly by 243 to 10,249 and the number

of children by 244 to 845. Accidents increased slightly from 1,452 to 1,482 but the number of fatal accidents fell from 28 to 16, while 248 were classed as serious and 1,218 as minor. Forty-six prosecutions were instituted and 33 convictions obtained as against 44 and 37, respectively, in the preceding year. The situation in regard to the housing of industrial labour remained very much the same, the question of improvement being difficult because in the larger towns the housing of the factory labour cannot be separated from the wider question of the housing of the working classes in general. This problem has been widely discussed but its solution would require much money. The general health of industrial workers appeared to be good and no outbreak of disease was reported during the year from any of the factories nor any case of unusual sickness. The full-time staff of the department inspected 715 factories as against 817 last year, and 253 factories were not inspected during the year as against 123 last year.

Trade.

111 The aggregate value of sea-borne trade of the province with foreign countries, Indian ports, and between provincial ports was Rs. 109.64 crores, in 1928-29 being a decrease of Rs. 14.29 crores as compared with the value of the preceding year. The value of the trade with foreign ports fell from Rs. 68.23 crores to Rs. 55.27 crores and that with Indian ports from Rs. 51.18 crores to Rs. 49.85 crores. The value of the trade between provincial ports increased from Rs. 4.52 crores to Rs. 4.53 crores. The depression in the rice market reacted on the trade of the province generally and a decline was noticed in almost all the principal articles imported. The balance of trade with foreign countries shows a sum of Rs. 12.42 crores in favour of Burma as against Rs. 15 crores in the previous year. The balance of trade with India was Rs. 18.33 crores as against Rs. 15.62 crores. The United Kingdom's share of the import trade dropped from 46.63 *per cent* to 44.19 *per cent* but her share of the export trade rose from 16.84 *per cent*. to 18.51 *per cent*. The share of Europe (excluding the United Kingdom) in the export trade was practically the same as in the previous year but that of Asia dropped from 22.12 *per cent* to 17.84 *per cent*. Rangoon absorbed 85.21 *per cent* of the total trade in private merchandise. The net customs duty, inclusive of duty on imported salt, fell from Rs. 5.52 crores to Rs. 4.67 crores.

112. The total value of the principal articles imported from foreign countries fell from Rs. 25.81 crores to Rs. 20.73 crores but that of Indian imports rose from 15.96 crores to 16.39 crores. Cotton manufactures including twist, etc., which were one-fourth of the total foreign imports dropped in value from Rs. 5.60 crores to Rs. 5.09 crores. There was a decline in the imports of both Foreign and Indian yarn and this is attributable to the establishment in Burma of a yarn factory which produces cheaper yarns, and also to poor demand owing to the closing down of the local handloom industries. The boycott of Japanese goods by the Chinese has resulted in the decline in imports of greys from Japan and an advance in the imports from the United Kingdom and China. The

United Kingdom which hitherto has monopolised the trade in whites reduced her share by over two and a half million yards, due no doubt to keen Japanese competition. The Japanese white shirting is gaining favour as it is cheaper than the British article and English lawns are being replaced by cheaper American and Swiss voiles. Large stocks of coloured goods imported in the previous year account for a reduction in 1928-29 of the imports of coloured goods. Mixed cotton and artificial silk goods decreased from 7.3 million to 3.2 million yards. Japan maintained her level but supplies from the United Kingdom, Italy, and Switzerland dropped considerably. Mixed piece-goods of cotton and silk maintained the increase registered during the previous year but piece-goods of pure silk fell off to the extent of 4.66 per cent in quantity. There was a remarkable fall in Shanghai raw silk (which was at one time popular in Burma), due to its being replaced by artificial silk yarn which is very much cheaper. Imports of carpets and rugs decreased considerably. There was a marked falling off under woollen piece-goods from all the principal countries. This is due to large stocks held in the previous year and also on account of the Japanese artificial silk gaining preference. The value of imported metals and ores declined from Rs. 2.79 crores to Rs. 1.75 crores. The remarkable fall in the metal trade is attributed to the completion of various construction works which were in progress during the previous year and to the suspension of some on account of financial stringency. The share of the United Kingdom, the largest supplier, amounted to Rs. 112.68 lakhs only, as against Rs. 185.62 lakhs in 1927-28. The value of hardware fell from Rs. 80.72 lakhs to Rs. 63.75 lakhs. The United Kingdom's share of the trade declined by Rs. 10.78 lakhs to Rs. 22.24 lakhs, Germany's by Rs. 5.53 lakhs, that of America by Rs. 2.54 lakhs and Japan's by Rs. 1.43 lakhs. The value of imported machinery and millwork fell from Rs. 2.60 crores to Rs. 1.70 crores. The decrease was due to (1) the completion of the works of two important mining concerns in the districts which were responsible for the greatly increased figures for "Mining Machinery" in the previous year and (2) the closing down of some of the rice mills consequent on the depression in the rice trade. Imports of railway plant and rolling stock dropped from Rs. 35.10 lakhs to Rs. 28.36 lakhs. The value of "Locomotive engines" amounted to Rs. 7.67 lakhs as against Rs. 16.27 lakhs and of "Carriages and Wagons", Rs. 9.75 lakhs as against Rs. 17.44 lakhs. The total imports of liquors decreased by 156,691 gallons and the value fell from Rs. 63 lakhs to Rs. 57 lakhs. The value of salt imported fell from Rs. 27 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs. The value of sugar imported fell from Rs. 95 lakhs to Rs. 74 lakhs. In the beginning of the year there was a sudden rise in the price of sugar at Java, and as dealers could not raise local prices in conformity imports of sugar fell from 44,140 tons to 39,249 tons. Imports of coal declined from Rs. 1.42 crores to Rs. 1.01 crores. This decrease may be attributed to the use of oil engines and to the fact that the mills have not worked continuously throughout the year. Imports of all mineral oils amounted to 28,395,216 gallons valued at Rs. 63.59 lakhs as against 25,980,511 gallons valued at Rs. 59.92 lakhs. There was an advance in the imports of fuel oil from 23,839,434 gallons valued at Rs. 33.96 lakhs to 25,941,417 gallons valued at Rs. 34.74 lakhs. Persia supplied 23,970,764 gallons while 1,970,528 gallons came from Dutch Borneo. Kerosene oil from the United States of America increased from 1,030,609 gallons to 1,262,009 gallons. Lubricating oil totalled 595,097

gallons as compared with 443,480 gallons. The United States of America increased her share from 380,954 gallons to 52,882 gallons but supplies from the United Kingdom decreased from 57,992 gallons to 31,352 gallons. Imports of motor cars advanced from 1,452 to 1,706. There was an increase from 297 to 332 in the imports from the United Kingdom; 681 cars arrived from Canada and 587 from the United States of America against 491 and 511 cars, respectively, in 1927-28. Imports of motor cycles declined from 203 to 100 of which 89 came from the United Kingdom. The decrease is apparently due to the fact that second-hand motor cars are available in the market at prices below those of new motor cycles. Imports of omnibuses increased from 1,285 to 1,688. The United Kingdom more than doubled her sales by sending 152 as against 66. From Canada and the United States of America came 729 and 798 as against 769 and 410. Imports of matches declined from 1,077,119 gross of boxes valued at Rs 11 87 lakhs to 507,267 gross of boxes valued at Rs 5 77 lakhs, due mainly to increased local production. The supplies from Japan and Sweden totalled 21,250 and 485,600 gross of boxes, respectively, as against 272,700 and 803,800 gross of boxes, respectively. Imports of "gunny bags" from Bengal improved from 43,573,806 valued at Rs 229 78 lakhs to 52,910,143 valued at Rs 262 22 lakhs.

113. The total value of Rangoon exports, both to foreign and Indian Ports, fell from Rs. 59 50 crores to Rs 53 28 crores. The total shipment of rice and paddy to foreign ports was 1,537,992 tons valued at Rs. 20 72 crores against 1,888,539 tons valued at Rs. 27 76 crores, figures for paddy being 45,894 tons valued at Rs 40 81 lakhs against 27,914 tons valued at Rs 27 14 lakhs. The shipments of rice and paddy to Indian ports (excluding Burma ports) amounted to 1,248,401 tons valued at Rs. 16 65 crores against 1,088,128 tons valued at Rs. 15 32 crores, paddy figures being 188,112 tons valued at Rs. 1 90 crores against 183,729 tons valued at Rs 1 94 crores. Statistics obtained from trade sources, however, show a total shipment of 3,080,156 tons as against 2,964,024 of the previous year. As the official year cuts across two rice seasons a fair comparison can only be made by taking the quantities shipped during the last two calendar years. Shipments during 1927 amounted to 3,223,264 tons, whereas the 1928 total declined to 2,963,813 tons. But the figures for January to March 1929 stood at 994,847 tons while the total for the same period of 1928 was 878,504 tons only. Shipments of boiled rice to India and Ceylon increased, and over 800,000 tons were exported during the year. An interesting feature of the season was that for the first time in the rice trade, Calcutta took large quantities of *Meedong*, presumably because the price of the grain dropped as low as Rs. 395. Owing to large crops in other countries and in the absence of any shortage in other grains in the main consuming markets, the demand for Burma rice fell in the beginning of the year and the prices declined rapidly to a level far below the average of many previous years, and did not recover until September, by which time the great bulk of the crop had been marketed. Although the Japanese embargo on rice continued, Japanese shippers took fairly good quantities of *Ngasein* and *Meedong* rice. The serious communal riots in Bombay in February weakened the demand from India but this was counter-balanced by increased shipments to Europe. The rice trade of Burma

has suffered by the increasingly keen competition of other rice consuming countries, such as Egypt, Italy, Spain and Siam, which by increasing the acreage under rice have changed from importing into exporting countries. Since the future of Burma depends largely on her rice trade the question of depression in this trade has been receiving the anxious consideration both of the Government and of the commercial bodies. The total foreign exports of rice bran amounted to 236,957 tons valued at Rs. 130'60 *lakhs* as against 237,103 tons valued at Rs. 111'22 *lakhs*. The United Kingdom increased her share from 174,686 tons to 184,247 tons while shipments to Germany and the Straits declined from 30,574 and 24,225 tons, respectively to 26,996 and 17,181 tons. The quantity of mineral oils exported fell from 173,875,405 gallons valued at Rs. 10'30 crores to 159,345,355 gallons valued at Rs. 9'20 crores. The total quantity of mineral oil exported declined by 15 million gallons. In the coasting trade exports of benzine and petrol showed a slight increase while kerosene oil declined by 15 million gallons. There was not much change in the total quantity of paraffin-wax exported. The total shipments of teakwood amounted to 176,673 cubic tons valued at Rs. 3'31 crores against 199,818 cubic tons valued at Rs. 3'68 crores. The value of hides and skins exported rose from Rs. 34'22 *lakhs* to Rs. 41'96 *lakhs*. The United Kingdom's offtake of buffalo hides was reduced from 2'7 to 1'5 tons and of cow hides from 1,377 to 343 tons. Foreign exports of beans totalled 35,350 tons worth Rs. 44'22 *lakhs* as against 41,778 tons valued at Rs. 38'34 *lakhs*. The value of rubber exported was Rs. 61'02 *lakhs* against Rs. 115'33 *lakhs*. The United Kingdom took 2,102 tons valued at Rs. 25'71 *lakhs* as against 2,869 tons valued at Rs. 61'69 *lakhs*. Exports of lac to foreign countries rose from 4,032 cwts. valued at Rs. 3'79 *lakhs* to 13,774 cwts. valued at Rs. 11'88 *lakhs*. The bulk was shipped to the United States of America. The metal trade of Burma has shown further expansion. Foreign exports under metals and ores totalled 170,012 tons worth Rs. 406'45 *lakhs* being an increase of 6,640 tons. The principal item was piglead, the exports of which from Rangoon rose from 62,524 tons valued at Rs. 214'64 *lakhs* to 72,182 tons valued at Rs. 215'36 *lakhs*. Wolfram-ore dropped from 2,919 tons valued at Rs. 41'68 *lakhs* to 876 tons valued at Rs. 5'78 *lakhs*, and tin-ore increased from 2,361 tons valued at Rs. 58'30 *lakhs* to 2,624 tons valued at Rs. 53'41 *lakhs*. Zinc increased from 1,440,369 cwts. valued at Rs. 72 *lakhs* to 1,532,104 cwts. valued at Rs. 76'61 *lakhs*. The shipments of jade-stone increased from 1,961 cwts. valued at Rs. 3'02 *lakhs* to 2,488 cwts. valued at Rs. 5'82 *lakhs*. As usual China monopolised the trade.

114. The Maritime intra-provincial trade of the province was mainly shared by the ports of Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab and Bassem, the share of the remaining ports being negligible. The total value slightly rose from Rs. 4'52 crores to Rs. 4'53 crores

115-116. For the reasons given in the Report for 1925-26, information on this subject is no longer available.

Transfrontier Trade with
China, Siam and
Dependencies.

Public Works

117. A few minor administrative changes were made in the Irrigation Branch during the year 1928-29. Among them, the Rangoon Project Division was abolished and a temporary subdivision known as the Independent Project Subdivision with headquarters at Rangoon was constituted in its place. This latter was also abolished at the close of the year. The headquarters of the No. 1 (Nyaunggyat) Subdivision of the Kyaukse Construction Division was transferred from Nyaunggyat to Kyaukse.

In the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Public Works Department, a number of administrative changes were made during the year :—

- (1) The Pazundaung Subdivision of the Insein Division was abolished in May 1928
- (2) The Construction Subdivision of the Bhamo Division was abolished in June 1928
- (3) The Thayetmyo Subdivision was transferred from the Magwe Division to the Taungdwingyi Division in July 1928
- (4) The Pyawbwe Subdivision in the Meiktila Division was constituted in August 1928
- (5) The Cantonment Subdivision in the Rangoon Estate Office was constituted in August 1928
- (6) The Rangoon Courts Division was abolished and its Subdivision, *viz*, Rangoon Courts and Medical College Subdivisions were transferred to the Rangoon Division in September 1928.
- (7) The Ruby Mines Subdivision was transferred from the Shwebo Division to the Katha Division in September 1928.
- (8) The headquarters of the Taikkyi Subdivision of the Insein Division was transferred from Taikkyi to Hmawbi in September 1928.
- (9) The Pa-an Subdivision of the Thaton Division was abolished in October 1928.
- (10) A temporary Subdivision designated "Mokpalin Jail Subdivision" with headquarters at Mokpalin Quarries was constituted in the Thaton Division in October 1928.
- (11) Sanction was accorded to the constitution of the following Subdivisions in the Toungoo Division with headquarters at Toungoo in place of the existing Subdivisions in November 1928 :—(i) Headquarters Subdivision ; (ii) Toungoo North Subdivision ; (iii) Toungoo South Subdivision.
- (12) A temporary division designated "The Putao Division" was reconstituted in the North-East Circle in January 1929 with two Subdivisions, *viz* :—(i) Northern Subdivision ; and (ii) Southern Subdivision.
- (13) The Jail Subdivision of the Tharrawaddy Division was abolished in January 1929.
- (14) The headquarters of the Sathwa Subdivision, Taungdwingyi Division, was transferred from Sathwa to Nyaungbintha in January 1929.

(i) *Roads and Buildings.*

118. During the year 1928-29, the control both as regards policy and financial sanctions in matters relating to the roads in the voted area of the province, continued to be exercised by the Roads Committee of the Communications Board up to its 33rd meeting held on the 27th August 1928, but in January 1929 the Committee was divested of its power to accord financial sanction and was reconstituted as merely advisory to the Finance Department. The Committee held four meetings before it was divested of its financial powers and after considering 45 projects, both original and revised, accorded financial sanctions to expenditure aggregating Rs. 94 *lakhs*, and in its advisory capacity recommended the grant of financial sanctions to the projects considered at its 34th meeting held on the 14th February 1929 for a total sum of Rs. 17 80 *lakhs*. The length of metalled roads in the Province, outside municipal and notified areas, stood at 1,285 miles and that of unmetalled roads at 5,176 miles. Local Authorities maintained 291 miles of metalled road and 2,684 miles of unmetalled roads. The total expenditure on Communications was Rs. 124·6 *lakhs* of which Rs. 84·00 *lakhs* were spent on original works and Rs. 40·66 *lakhs* on repairs.

Two important decisions were arrived at by the Roads Committee during its deliberations. The alignment of the Western Trunk Road, *via*. Taungdwingyi, Magwe, Yenangyaung and on to Kyaukpadaung was adopted in lieu of the original Taungdwingyi-Natmauk-Shwebandaw-Thabyegon route. The other decision was made at the 34th meeting when the revised Programme of Trunk Road Construction costing Rs. 516·59 *lakhs* was approved.

This programme provides for the Rangoon-Martaban Road to be continued to Mergui and for all the Trunk Roads to be constructed to a standard fit for modern traffic requirements. The major portion of the expenditure under Original Works was incurred on general construction of and improvements to the Trunk Roads and the construction of the major and minor bridges. The construction of the two roads from Bilin Town to Kok Thein Na Yon Pagoda and from Kyaukto to the Kinmun Sakhan Pagoda in the Thaton District progressed satisfactorily and improvements generally were effected to the other provincial roads of minor importance, for which provision had been made in the 1928-29 Provincial Estimates. In the Backward Tracts the only two works in progress were the construction of a road from 8½ miles of the Jade Mines Road to Shaduzup in the Myitkyina District and the Mansi-Namkhan Road in the Bhamo District. The N'Sop-Sumprabum Road in the Myitkyina District, the construction of which is being financed from Central Revenues is nearing completion. The policy of employing released convicts on Public Works was fostered in the Magwe District, where earthwork on sections of the Western Trunk Road afforded scope for this class of labour.

119. During the year the Government Buildings Committee, like the Roads Committee of the Communications Board, was divested of its power to accord financial sanction and was reconstituted as merely advisory to the Finance Department. The expenditure on Civil Buildings was Rs. 92·62 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 115·71 *lakhs* in 1927-28.

and Rs. 123'21 *lakhs* in 1926-27. Rs. 76'82 *lakhs* were spent on Original Works and Rs. 15'80 *lakhs* on Repairs. These figures include Central and Provincial Expenditure and the value of work done for local authorities and treated as "Deposit Works"

The principal projects undertaken were :—Police Cottages at Kyauktan, Kyauklat, Kyaikpi, Ma-ubin, Yegyí, Bassein, Kothein, Yandoon, Bogale, Moulmein, Ye, Oktwin and Sagaing ; Lock-up at Zigon, Anglo-Vernacular High School at Moulmein, Hostel for the Anglo-Vernacular High School at Pyapon, 5 Inspection Bungalows in the colony East of Kayan in the Pegu and Hanthawaddy Districts, X-Ray Operation Theatre in the Civil Hospital at Mandalay, Hon'ble Judge's Quarters at Mandalay, Township Court House at Zigon, Seed Farm Buildings at Maubin, Magwe, Kanbalu and Chuba, IVth Class Defensible Police Stations at Tabayin and Taze

The construction of the Rangoon Courts and University Buildings was continued during the year.

The following works were completed during the year :—Court Houses at Daik-u, Pa-an, Taikkyi, Tavoy, Kungyangon, Kyaunggon, Yegyí and Thabaung ; Police Cottages at Kyauktaw, Thongwa, Kayan, Lem-yethna, Kanbe, Pyapon, Myebon, Police Buildings at Yegyí, Danubyu, Tawlate (Insein District) ; New Defensible Police Station at Upper Yebyu ; Latter Street Police Station at Rangoon ; Government Anglo-Vernacular Middle School at Pa-an, New Anglo-Vernacular High School, at Insein ; Anglo-Vernacular High School at Akyab, Extensions to the Government Anglo-Vernacular High School at Sagaing ; Civil Hospital at Insein ; Seed Farm Buildings at Mudon, Thaton, Henzada ; Seed Farm with quarters for Deputy Assistant Director of Agriculture at Pyu ; Deputy Director of Agriculture's quarters at Magwe ; Women and Children's Ward in the Civil Hospital at Mandalay ; Junior Warden's Quarters at Chauk ; Township and Honorary Magistrate's Court at Yenangyaung ; Quarters for the Superintendents of Excise at Bhamo and Pyapon ; Quarters of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Bhamo ; Divisional Forest Officer's Quarters, Henzada ; 8 Quarters for Married Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Military Police Post at Mogaung ; Quarters for Headquarters Assistant (Civil) at Katha, Additions and alterations to the District Court House at Katha ; Divisional Forest Officers's Quarters at Tavoy ; Deputy Superintendent of Police's Quarters at Mergui ; Office and Quarters of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Akyab ; New Judicial Court House at Akyab. Post Office at Kyaukpyu ; Additions and alterations to the Court and Treasury Buildings at Kyaukpyu, New Medical College, Rangoon ; and Remodelling of Public Works Department Stores at Rangoon.

120. The expenditure under the head "Miscellaneous" which includes water supply and sewerage schemes was Rs. 2'95 *lakhs* on Government works, Rs. 4'64 *lakhs* on Rangoon University Project Works, and Rs. 1'40 *lakhs* on Non-Government works, compared with Rs. 3'03 *lakhs* in 1927-28 and Rs. 3'13 *lakhs* in 1926-27 on account of Government works only. On Government account Rs. 2'55 *lakhs* was spent on Original Works, and Rs. 0'40 *lakh* on repairs. On University College account Rs. 4'64 *lakhs* was spent on Original Works only. On Non-Government account Rs. 1'34 *lakhs* was spent on Original Works, and Rs. 0'01 *lakh* on repairs. A number of projects for either supplying water or improving existing

water supply schemes for buildings were sanctioned. Most of these works were completed. Water supply schemes for Pyawbwe, Myingyan Yenangyaung, Magwe, Minhla, Nyaunglebin and Taungdwingyi were completed and that for Monywa was still in progress. Tube wells were sunk at Tada-gale, Rangoon University and Yenangyaung and testing and cleaning tube wells and surface water at Bassein, Shwēbo, Insein and Taungdwingyi were put in hand and completed. Laying out of a combined pumping and distribution main for water supply to the C.I.D. Lines, Civil Hospital and Anglo-Vernacular High School at Insein and provision of garden water supply for the New Mental Hospital at Tada-gale from the lake were put in hand and completed. Surveys for drainage and sewerage schemes at Mergui, Pymmana, Kyaukpadaung, Kyaukto, Promé, Natthim, Thonzè, etc., were completed and the projects are under preparation. Survey for a permanent water supply for Mandalay was put in hand and the work is in progress. Surveys for drainage schemes at Sagang, Maymyo, Myitkyna, Paungde, Henzada, Kyauklat, Promé, Mergui, Myanaung, and Insein were completed and the projects are under preparation. Estimates were prepared for sinking tube wells at Chandamane, Kambe, Minhla, and Magwe but have not yet been sanctioned.

Works on the main sewerage subsidiary sewers, sewerage outfall works for Rangoon University, also main sewers to Rangoon Courts were completed during the year. Sanitary installation to most of the University buildings and other Government buildings were completed.

An estimate for sanitation, water supply and sewerage to Tanwe Police Station has been prepared, but not yet sanctioned.

Estimates for survey of drainage schemes at Wakema Town and Nyaunglebin were prepared; the estimate for the latter was sanctioned and funded in full. Estimates for Mergui foreshore drainage scheme and Zagon bazaar were also prepared.

Several lay out plans, drainage schemes and schemes for bazaars, which were received from local bodies, were examined and necessary reports and advice furnished to them.

(ii) *Railways and Tramways.*

121. The Burma Railways were taken over by the State with effect from the 1st January 1929. The total mileage of the system was increased to 1930·51 miles by the opening to traffic of a length of 11·25 miles between Heho and Shwemyaung, and of 10·81 miles between Kayan and Thongwa. The following sections, amounting in all to 168·40 miles were under construction at the close of the year: Natnauk to Kyaukpadaung (47·10 miles); Myingyan-Natogyi-Paleik (69·00 miles); Nyaunglebin-Madauk (11·30 miles), and Minbu-Pakōkku (41·00 miles). Work on the approaches to the Sagaing bridge and on the small spans was taken in hand during the year. The bridge is expected to be completed early in 1933. The Railway Board sanctioned a preliminary survey being carried out by the agency of the Burma Railway Administration for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Mergui to the Siamese frontier, a distance of 110 miles. The report and estimates have been received.

122. There were 8 accidents on the railway in which people were either killed or injured. Two were fatal involving the death of 4 people and injuries to 11, and 6 non-fatal involving injuries to 83 people. There were 19 accidents in which nobody was injured. In the first fatal accident a ballast train was being backed on to a quarry siding about midnight when the leading brakevan was derailed and capsized and nine ballast trucks derailed. The brakesman, the second fireman and the jemadar were killed and the night guard slightly injured. The accident is believed to have been due to split points. The second fatal accident was caused by a motor bus colliding with the engine of a goods train at a level crossing. One woman was killed and nine women and one man injured. Of the 83 people injured in non-fatal accidents, injuries to 70 were caused by a coach catching fire. The fire is believed to have been caused by the ignition of some highly inflammable liquid which had been spilt on the floor of the carriage. From the beginning of June till the middle of October there were numerous stoppages caused by floods on the Mu Valley line. Many of these were on the Ye-U Branch and caused stoppages for considerable periods. The overflow of the Kadu lake in the Shwebo District also caused stoppages extending over several days. On the main line there were only two stoppages and through communication was restored on the same or following day. There were three stoppages on the Southern Shan States Railway, two of them being for five days and the remaining one for one day. On the Mandalay-Lashio line there were four breaches, one of them being for seven days and in the other three through communication was restored on the same or following day. The wagon ferry between Tharraway shore and Henzada shore was suspended for 11 days owing to the ferry line being inundated.

123. The number of passengers carried on the whole system decreased from 37,125,507 in 1927-28 to 35,374,131 during 1928-29. The gross earnings fell from Rs. 5'08 crores to Rs. 4'98 crores, being a decrease of Rs. 10 lakhs, but the working expenses increased by Rs. 11 lakhs from Rs. 2'90 crores to Rs. 3'01 crores, so that the net earnings fell from Rs. 2'18 crores to Rs. 1'97 crores, being a decrease of Rs. 21 lakhs. There was a big drop in the number of third class passengers carried, the earnings from which fell by Rs. 10 lakhs. This was due to the competition between rail and motor traffic and strenuous efforts are being made to meet this competition by increasing the number of trains and by accelerating the speed of the trains. The percentage of working expenses to gross earnings increased from 57'1 in 1927-28 to 60'5 in 1928-29, and the percentage of net earnings on total capital at charge decreased from 7'24 to 6'33. Working expenses per train mile increased from Rs. 3'49 to Rs. 3'65. Engineering expenditure during the year included the remodelling of station yards at Yamethin, Pynmana, Insein, Rangoon, Pegu and Keighley Street; the provision of a covering over the platforms at Thazi, Toungoo and Pynmana, and the relaying, of part of Lashio branch line. The capital outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 1'41 crores, which brought the total expenditure up to the end of the year from the commencement of operations to Rs. 32'76 crores. The chief items of capital expenditure during the year were, in lakhs of rupees :

Main line, 49 21 ; Minbu-Pakòkku, 22 33 , Irrawaddy bridge (Sagang) 20'11 ; Myingyan-Natogyi-Paleik, 17'21 ; Taungdwingyi-Kyaukpadaung, 14'33 , Nyaunglebin-Madauk, 5'34 ; Heho-Shwenyaung, 3 28 ; Kayan-Thôngwa, 2'72 ; Thazi-Heho, 1 63 ; Pegu-Moulmein Extension, 1 08 ; and Pymmana-Taungdwingyi, 1'01

Two surveys were in progress during the year in connection with the Lashio-Muse railway and the Prome-Allanmyo-Satthwa railway.

124 The number of passengers carried by the Rangoon tramways decreased from 33,440,665 to 28,200,492 and the receipts declined from Rs. 15'69 *lakhs* to Rs. 12 56 *lakhs*. The decrease is presumably due to the competition of motor omnibuses. The running mileage was computed at 2,947,652 as against 2,638,519 in 1927-28. The single track along Upper Pazundaung Road from the north side of Thebyu bridge to the terminus was doubled and opened for traffic in May 1928.

The number of passengers carried by the Mandalay tramways decreased from 4'34 millions to 3 20 millions and there was a considerable decline in the receipts from Rs. 3 49 *lakhs* to Rs. 2 52 *lakhs*. The mileage run was 603,486 miles

(iii) Canals.

125. The Twantè Canal was maintained in good order. The work of restricting the width of the Chord Cut at Letpangon was continued during the year, but was confined only to the north bank in view of the recommendation of the Consulting Engineer to widen and deepen the canal. The working expenses fell from Rs. 2'08 *lakhs* to Rs. 0 48 *lakh*. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 5 34 *lakhs* against Rs. 4 96 *lakhs* in the previous year, the increase being due to the credit to the canal of rent for two years from the land made over to the Administrator of Government Estates. The net results of the year were therefore Rs. 4 86 *lakhs* against Rs. 6 12 *lakhs* in the previous year ; the latter was high as it included an adjustment of Rs. 3'24 *lakhs* being the value of work done for local bodies.

The gross receipts from the Pegu-Sittang Canal fell from Rs. 2 01 *lakhs* to Rs. 1 89 *lakhs*, the drop being due to less logs passing through the canal. The cost of maintenance rose from Rs. 0'86 *lakh* to Rs. 1 05 *lakhs*, thereby causing the net receipts to fall from Rs. 1'19 *lakhs* in the previous year to Rs. 0'84 *lakh*. The lowering of the bed level of the canal has resulted in about 1,800 acres of low-lying land being brought under cultivation.

Irrigation.

126. There was no change in the number or classification of irrigation works for which capital accounts are kept.

The capital expenditure on the Shwebo Canal amounted during the year to Rs. 1 00 *lakh*. The unfinished portion of the river training works at the headworks of the canal was completed before the river rose, and the rebuilding of the syphon on the Moksogyon branch which was destroyed by floods was well advanced at the end of the year.

Materials were collected for the work of extending syphon No. 1C on the main canal, which was commenced during the year but excavation was slow owing to the very hard earth met with in the foundations. Progress on the remodelling project was retarded by labour difficulties as well as by the employment of the staff on repairing flood damages on other parts of the canal ; a further cause of the slow progress was the delay in the preparation of detailed designs and estimates owing to unavoidable frequent changes in Executive Officers. A new office was built for the Remodelling Division, and the new distributary No. 5 from the Hladaw Branch was completed and opened to irrigation, an area of about 8,000 acres receiving water during the year. Three masonry bridges across this distributary were also completed and opened to cart traffic. The capital expenditure on the Ye-u Canal was Rs. 0.94 *lakh*, which was spent on installing Walton gates and alterations at the head regulator, as well as on constructing watercourses required for the complete equipment of the canal system.

The quarters of the Subdivisional Officer, Mandalay Canal, were completed, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 0.06 *lakh*. Temporary quarters for the staff employed on constructing the Linzin weir in connection with the remodelling of the Salin Canals were completed. The well foundations for the right abutment of the weir and canal regulator were put in, and a good deal of earthwork done along the canal. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 3.37 *lakhs*.

Satisfactory progress was made on the earthwork of the Sinbyungyun distributary, some $3\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet being dug. This distributary is the main item for the project known as the North Mon Canals Extension. A few bridges were built and all drainage crossings designed. The capital expended during the year was Rs. 1.41 *lakhs*.

Remodelling work on the Paleik Canal of the Zawgyi River system was continued, the capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 0.15 *lakh*. Work on remodelling the Pyaungbya Branch Canal, Panlaung River system, was held up owing to the staff being employed on the flood repairs on the Zawgyi River system. In consequence the work was made over to the Kyaukse Construction Division and a good start was made by the end of the year on constructing four distributaries, the total capital spent being Rs. 0.30 *lakh*.

Alternative schemes are being worked out for the modulating reservoir connected with the Panlaung River Improvement scheme and so work was confined during the year to the maintenance of the preliminary work already done. The capital spent during the year was Rs. 0.35 *lakh*.

The supplies of water were ample in the Mandalay, Shwebo, Kyaukse and Yamethin Districts, where the rainfall was abundant, but were deficient in the northern portion of the Meiktila District, where the late rains failed almost completely, resulting in serious crop failures. In the Minbu District the rainfall was erratic, and but for the canal systems there would have been excessive crop failures.

The total area irrigated during the year by all works of the capital class was 669,816 acres against 701,742 acres in the previous year. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 37.75 *lakhs* and the working expenses to Rs. 20.40 *lakhs*, leaving a net revenue balance of Rs. 17.35 *lakhs*.

127. The area irrigated by works for which capital accounts are not kept totalled 84,874 acres against 64,205 acres in the previous year. The increase is due to the abundant rainfall in tracts where the irrigation systems are dependent on the rainfall for their supply of water, particularly in the Shwebo and Yamethin Districts.

The gross revenue from these works during the year amounted to Rs. 1'97 *lakhs*, and the expenditure of all kinds upon them was Rs. 4'47 *lakhs*.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE

REFERENCES :—

- Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the official year 1928-29.
- Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1928-29.
- Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
- Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Burma during the year 1928-29
- Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1929.
- Report on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma during the three years ended the 31st March 1929
- Report on the Forest Administration in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1929
- Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Irrigation Branch), for the year 1928-29
- Statistics of District Councils and Deputy Commissioners' Local Funds in Burma for the year 1928-29
- Report on the Municipal Administration of the City of Rangoon for the year 1928-29
- Statistics of Municipalities (except Rangoon) and Notified Areas in Burma for the year 1928-29
- Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from the 1st April 1928 to the 31st March 1929.
- Ninth Annual Report on the working of the Rangoon Development Trust for the year 1928-29
- Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes II and IV

Financial Relations between Central and Provincial Governments

128. There was no change during the year in the financial relations between the Central and Provincial Governments as described in paragraph 219 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22 and as modified in paragraph 128 of the Report for 1927-28.

The principal central heads of revenue are Customs, Taxes on Income, Salt and Ports and Pilotage.

(a) Central Revenue and Finance.

129. The Central receipts in 1928-29 were Rs 887'01 *lakhs* as compared with Rs. 972'06 *lakhs* in the previous year, a decrease of Rs. 85 05 *lakhs*. The decrease was mainly due to smaller receipts under Customs, Taxes on Income and Salt which are discussed in the following paragraphs, but there was also an adjustment item between Central and Provincial heads of Rs. 1 66 *lakhs* representing the refund to the Shan States Federation of revenues effected through misapprehension in previous years towards the cost of Audit and Accounts establishment. There were increases in receipts under a few of the heads amounting in all to Rs. 0 98 *lakh* of which Ports and Pilotage were responsible for Rs. 0 67 *lakh*, due mainly to larger receipts from coast light dues.

The Central Expenditure in 1928-29 was Rs. 152'17 *lakhs* as compared with Rs. 156 85 *lakhs* in the previous year, a decrease of Rs. 4 68 *lakhs*. There were increases of Rs 2'09 *lakhs* in interest charges on ordinary debt, Rs 0'90 *lakh* under Audit mainly due to larger expenditure under "Pay of Establishment" owing to increments and to recoveries from Local Funds, etc., Rs 0'78 *lakh* under Customs mainly due to the larger payments towards the rebuilding of the Mayo Marine Institute, Rangoon, and Rs. 0 77 *lakh* under other heads. Against these increases there were decreases of Rs. 6'20 *lakhs* under Frontier Watch and Ward due to smaller expenditure on buildings and communications, on supplies and services and to smaller expeditionary charges; Rs. 1 73 *lakhs* due to smaller expenditure on the hire of vessels for tending lights and on re-erecting and fitting light vessels and Rs. 1'28 *lakhs* under other heads.

130. The Customs receipts fell from Rs. 724 *lakhs* in 1927-28 to Rs. 657 *lakhs* in 1928-29. The decrease was due to smaller receipts under "Sea Customs—Imports" owing to the general depression in trade, under "Sea Customs—Exports" which resulted from a smaller demand for rice from foreign countries, and under Excise duty on kerosene owing to the activities of the foreign oil concerns in the local market. The decrease was partly counterbalanced by an increase under "Excise duty on motor spirit."

131. The number of income-tax assesses in the Province rose from 31,934 to 32,238, but the net revenue from both income-tax and super-tax fell from Rs. 213'55 *lakhs* (which was realised in 1927-28 and is the highest on record) to Rs. 194'43 *lakhs*. The table in the margin shows the number

| Province whole. (In thousands of rupees) | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| Year | No of assesses | Income tax. | Super-tax | Total. |
| 1925-26 | 27,865 | 125,68 | 59,20 | 184,88 |
| 1926-27 | 31,111 | 140,06 | 65,22 | 205,88 |
| 1927-28 | 31,934 | 147,03 | 66,52 | 213,55 |
| 1928-29 | 32,238 | 137,47 | 56,96 | 194,43 |

of assesses and the net collections (income-tax and super-tax) for the four years ending with the year under report. The drop in revenue is attributed to (a) the general trade depression which marked the closing months of 1927-28 and (b) the diminution of the profits of oil companies in consequence of the price-cutting which began in the same year.

132. The administration of the salt revenue was transferred from the control of the Local Government to that of the Central Board of Revenue with effect from the 15th May 1928. The quantity of locally manufactured salt available for issue from bond increased during the year by 72,000 to 750,000 maunds but the quantity issued decreased by 25,000 maunds and shipments to Rangoon fell from 19,600 to 7,600 maunds. Total imports of foreign salt decreased from 2,750,000 to 2,220,000 maunds but there was an increase from 900,000 to 1,410,000 maunds in salt imported from Germany. Imports of Massowah salt fell from 400,000 to 1,00,000 maunds and there was also a decrease by 140,000 to 130,000 maunds in Aden salt. Salt from Great Britain fell to 76,000 maunds.

The average price at Rangoon of foreign salt, excluding German salt, fell by $10\frac{1}{2}$ pies to Rs. 2-3-9 $\frac{3}{4}$ per maund inclusive of duty and that of German salt decreased from Rs. 2-7-6 to 2-6-4 $\frac{1}{2}$. The highest price for foreign salt was reached by Liverpool salt at Rs. 2-10-10 per maund and the cheapest foreign salt was Massowah at Rs. 2-1-0, both rates being slightly lower than those of last year. The average wholesale price per maund of locally produced salt was Rs. 2-9-5 as against Rs. 2-11-4 last year. The average consumption of salt per head of the population for the whole of the Province fell from 18 58 to 16 87 lbs. and the incidence of taxation per head dropped by 4 99 pies to 4 annas 1'20 pies. Local production was hindered, as in previous years, by the difficulty in obtaining wood fuel.

133. The total quantity of salt consumed amounted to 2,720,000 maunds as against 2,970,000 maunds the previous year. Of this amount 18,600 maunds for salting and curing hides and skins and 92 maunds for medicinal purposes were issued free of duty. The sources of origin and the relative proportions of the various kinds of salt consumed in the Province are shown in the table in the margin.

| Source of Origin | Percentage of Consumption | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| | 1927-28. | 1928-29 |
| <i>Duty paid</i> | | |
| Burma salt | 17 28 | 17 846 |
| <i>Foreign</i> | | |
| United Kingdom | 2 83 | 3 457 |
| Germany ... | 29 98 | 33 670 |
| Other Foreign Countries ... | 49 11 | 44 376 |
| <i>Duty-free</i> | | |
| Medicinal salt ... | 06 | 003 |
| Industrial salt .. | 74 | 648 |
| Total | 100 00 | 100 000 |

The consumption of foreign salt of all kinds, including salt imported *via* India, fell from 2,460,000 to 2,340,000 maunds. Issues of German salt decreased slightly from 970,000 to 960,000 maunds. The consumption of duty-paid Burma salt fell from 500,000 to 480,000 maunds.

134. There were no receipts from, or expenditure on, opium on behalf of Central Revenues. Under a revised arrangement introduced in 1925-26 the cost of opium supplied to the Provincial Government was debited in the books of the Accountant-General, United Provinces.

(b) Provincial Revenue and Finance

135. The total provincial revenue for the year 1928-29 amounted to Rs 12'30 crores as compared with Rs. 11 92 crores in the previous year, an increase of Rs. 38 *lakhs*. The expenditure for 1928-29 was Rs 12 05 crores as compared with Rs 12'20 crores in 1927-28, a decrease of Rs. 15 *lakhs*. The principal items of variation are noted below —A loan of Rs 130 *lakhs* was taken from the Provincial Loans Fund to finance the capital programme of development of the province, against Rs 75 *lakhs* in the previous year. An increase of Rs 4'75 *lakhs* in land revenue was due mainly to larger collections from Government estates. Under Excise an increase of Rs 9'69 *lakhs* was due chiefly to larger receipts from the sale of country fermented liquor and opium. The betting tax which was a new tax levied during the year, yielded Rs. 4'57 *lakhs*. Under Irrigation (capital accounts) receipts were higher by Rs. 2'63 *lakhs*. The increase of Rs. 3 04 *lakhs* under Police receipts was mainly due to increased rent from Police quarters, but partly to a change in the system of accounting. An increase of Rs. 2'89 *lakhs* under Civil Works was due to recoveries of investments in Government commercial undertakings and larger receipts from rents. Under "Depreciation Fund—Commercial Concerns" there was an increase of Rs 12'25 *lakhs* owing to larger deposits having been made with Government. For the reasons given in paragraph 131 Taxes on Income yielded Rs. 2 73 *lakhs* less. Under Forests a decrease of Rs. 47'09 *lakhs* was mainly due to the commercialisation of the Utilization Circle from the 1st April 1928 and to the net receipts for three quarters only of 1928-29 having been credited to this head. There was a decrease of Rs. 16'50 *lakhs* under "Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments" owing to the previous year's figures having included the adjustment of the loan taken by the Burma Spinning and Weaving Company. As regards expenditure a decrease of Rs. 15 17 *lakhs* under "Forests" was due to the commercialisation of the Utilization Circle. There was less expenditure on the construction of irrigation works (taking into account both sections of the accounts) due partly to smaller expenditure on dredging the Pegu-Sittang Canal. There was a drop of Rs 2 08 *lakhs* under "Scientific Departments" due mainly to the closing down of the Hydro-Electric Survey of the Yunnalin area. A decrease of Rs. 5'33 *lakhs* for Education was due mainly to a smaller payment to the University Building Trust and to smaller grants to Non-Government Secondary Schools. Expenditure on Civil Works was less by Rs. 2'48 *lakhs*. Under "Miscellaneous" there was a decrease of Rs. 8'65 *lakhs* mainly due to the 1927-28 accounts having included a sum of Rs. 6'83 *lakhs* being the write off of the balance of loan granted to the Burma Spinning and Weaving Company, and a sum of Rs. 3'08 *lakhs* being payment to the Rangoon Development Trust for reclamation works. Smaller expenditure on the Mingaladon Cantonment project accounted for a decrease of Rs. 10 11 *lakhs* under "52 Extraordinary charges." Smaller loans were given to municipalities and other local bodies. Larger capital expenditure incurred by the Utilization Circle accounted for the increase of Rs. 5 30 *lakhs* under "8A Forest Capital Outlay". Other heads under which increased expenditure was recorded include "General Administration" (Rs. 2'16 *lakhs*), "Administration of Justice"

(Rs. 1'61 lakhs), Jails and Convict Settlements (Rs. 2'16 lakhs), " Police " (Rs. 8'96 lakhs), " Ports and Pilotage " (Rs. 2'09 lakhs), " Medical " (Rs. 1'42 lakhs), " Public Health " (Rs. 1'13 lakhs) and " Agriculture " (Rs. 1'85 lakhs). In the case of the Police the large increase was partly due to a change in the system of accounting. There was also an increase of Rs. 4'19 lakhs under " 45 Superannuation Allowances and Pensions " which was due to increased expenditure on general pensions and Civil Service annuities paid in England.

136. For the agricultural year ending the 30th June 1929 the receipts (excluding arrears collected) under the head land revenue, excluding the share of land revenue credited to the Irrigation Department, but including collections of capitation-tax, *thalhameda*, land rate in lieu of capitation-tax, fishery revenue and other miscellaneous land revenue, amounted to Rs. 532'72 lakhs or Rs. 10'66 lakhs more than in the previous year. Variations under land revenue proper have been discussed in Chapter II of this report.

Collections of capitation-tax in Lower Burma increased by Rs. 1'50 lakhs to Rs. 60'38 lakhs and the number of assessees by over 30,000. Remissions decreased from Rs. 3'02 lakhs to Rs. 2'73 lakhs. The collection of *thalhameda*-tax amounted to Rs. 43'81 lakhs only or about Rs. 24,000 less than in the previous year; remissions were Rs. 89,810 as against Rs. 77,420 in the previous year. The decrease in collections of *thalhameda*-tax occurred mainly in the Magwe, Sagaing and Katha districts. In Magwe district the decrease was due to the reduction in the strength of the Burma Oil Company's labour; that in Sagaing district was attributed to disasters to crops and property by hail storms and fire in Chaungu township, while that in Katha district was due to the introduction of low rates fixed by Settlement in previously unsettled areas, where the normal rate per household was Rs. 10. Land rate in lieu of capitation-tax imposed in certain towns in Lower Burma increased by about Rs. 13,000. The total collections from fishery revenue decreased from Rs. 48'43 lakhs to Rs. 45'49 lakhs. This decrease was due to the fishery districts suffering after a poor season in the preceding year from prolonged and irregular late rise of the river. Collections of miscellaneous revenue rose from Rs. 42'32 lakhs to Rs. 49'08 lakhs. Rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber showed an increase of over Rs. 6½ lakhs while royalties on other minerals showed a fall of about Rs. 40,000. The increase under rents of town lands and other miscellaneous land revenue was about Rs. 0'54 lakh.

137. After deducting refunds the gross Excise revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 133'34 lakhs against Rs. 123'60 lakhs in the previous year. There was an increase in both liquor revenue and opium revenue. The increase in liquor revenue occurred mainly in Rangoon. The usual decrease in opium revenue was checked by an increase in the retail price of opium and by an extension of the Myaungmya experiment of registering Burmese consumers in unhealthy districts. The expenditure increased from Rs. 22'18 lakhs to Rs. 22'98 lakhs. Excluding the cost of opium purchased from Ghazipur, the increase of expenditure was very slight.

138. The total quantity of opium issued to the opium shops increased from 24,888 seers to 25,261 seers.
Excise—Opium. There was the usual decrease in most districts but this was counterbalanced by increases in Kyaukpju, Bassein and Tharrawaddy districts in consequence of the extension of the Myaungmya experiment. There were also small increases in the issues in Bhamo, Myitkyina and Katha districts, due to more successful competition against smuggled opium and to increased activity in gem mining in the Ruby Mines subdivision of Katha district. The average annual consumption per 100 of the population was 0·22 of a seer against 0·21 of a seer in the previous year. The net opium revenue increased from Rs 32 09 *lakhs* to Rs. 35·30 *lakhs*. Most of this increase was due to the increase in retail prices but a small increase in issues of Excise opium and a lower cost price also contributed. The revenue from fines and forfeitures, most of which consists of the sale proceeds of confiscated opium, also increased from Rs. 2·83 *lakhs* to Rs 3·33 *lakhs*. The number of opium shops remained at 121, the same as in the previous year. The average profit per licensee increased from Rs. 1,163 to Rs. 1,268. Seizures of contraband opium increased from 375,541 tolas to 502,505 tolas, a figure which has only once before been exceeded. Most of this large increase occurred in Rangoon. The biggest single seizure of the year was one of 16,080 tolas of Shan opium at Rangoon. The number of prosecutions for offences under the Opium Act increased from 3,172 to 3,260 but the percentage of convictions fell from 83·6 to 79·6.

139. The volume of foreign spirit imported decreased from 214,392 liquid gallons in the previous year to 190,735 liquid gallons in the year of report. Most of the decrease was in respect of Java rum. Imports of brandy from France and whisky from the United Kingdom were nearly the same as in the previous year. There was a large decrease in the imports of foreign beer from 898,843 gallons to 758,263 gallons. The total issues of foreign spirit manufactured in Burma decreased from 27,911 London proof gallons to 22,260 London proof gallons. The full rate of duty of Rs. 17-8-0 per London proof gallon was paid on 10,529 gallons. The total revenue realized from duty decreased from Rs. 2 89 *lakhs* to Rs. 2·37 *lakhs*. The issues of rectified spirit at the reduced rate of Rs. 5 per London proof gallon increased slightly from 2,118 gallons to 2,120 gallons. The quantity of beer issued from the Mandalay Brewery decreased from 161,766 gallons to 146,619 gallons, and the duty realized fell from Rs. 78,196 to Rs 72,304. Imports of denatured spirit, including spirit denatured in bond in Rangoon, decreased from 91,000 to 80,221 liquid gallons. It is used principally for the manufacture of varnishes and furniture polish. The revenue from country spirit fell by Rs 1 19 *lakhs* to Rs. 13·84 *lakhs*, the decrease being mainly under the head duty, consequent on reduced consumption. The revenue from license fees increased slightly.

The revenue from *tari*, which is derived entirely from license fees, increased from Rs. 14 34 *lakhs* to Rs. 17·27 *lakhs*. Most of this increase occurred in Rangoon Town where it is attributed to the Chinese liquor dealers entering into competition with Indians for *tari* licenses. The revenue from country fermented liquor other than *tari* increased from Rs. 41·30 *lakhs* to Rs. 45 44 *lakhs*. Most of this increase also came from

Rangoon, where the new system of controlling *hlawzaye* and imposing a duty on the materials used in manufacture, continued to be a success.

140. The possession of hemp drugs, except under license, for the purpose of treating elephants, is still illegal in Burma and no change has been made in the law. **Ganja, Cocaine and Morphia** Seizures of illicit hemp drugs decreased slightly from 130,048 tolas to 129,456 tolas. The consumption of illicit ganja is confined to Indians. The quantity of cocaine seized decreased from 986,227 grams to 289,475 grams. The seizures in the previous year were exceptional. Most of the cocaine was seized by Customs officers but the biggest seizure of the year, namely 96,140 grains, was made by the Rangoon River Police. Most of the cocaine seized was of Japanese manufacture. The price of illicit cocaine ranged from Rs 50 to Rs 70 per ounce, which is much the same as in the previous year. Seizures of morphia increased from 3,805 grains to 67,959 grains, but there is no reason to believe that the habit is on the increase. The biggest seizure of the year was one of 25,250 grains by the Rangoon Excise staff in a parcel at the General Post Office.

141. The total revenue from stamps was Rs. 74'02 *lakhs* as compared with Rs. 73'55 *lakhs* in 1927-28. This total includes Rs 2'63 *lakhs*, against Rs. 2'70 *lakhs* last year, collected on instruments affecting immoveable property in Rangoon, which is paid under section 68 of the Rangoon Development Trust Act, 1920, to the Board of Trustees created by the Act, without any deduction for cost of collection or supervision. The provincial receipts include a contribution of Rs. 4'23 *lakhs* from the Government of India on account of unified stamps. Receipts were Rs 38'97 *lakhs* under the Court Fees Act and Rs. 35'05 *lakhs* under the Stamp Act against Rs. 36'09 *lakhs* and Rs. 37'46 *lakhs* respectively in the previous year. The cost of general supervision was Rs 29,000 in 1928-29 and Rs. 26,000 in the previous year. The number of stamp vendors fell slightly from 1,258 to, 1,246, and the amount of discount from Rs. 1'16 *lakhs* to Rs. 1'06 *lakhs*. **Stamps**

142. The forest revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 160'79 *lakhs* against Rs. 208'15 *lakhs* and the expenditure Rs. 79'68 *lakhs* against Rs. 88'99 *lakhs* in the previous year. The net surplus was Rs. 81'11 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 119'16 *lakhs*. The net decrease in revenue is Rs 47'36 *lakhs*. Of this the decrease against the Utilization Circle is Rs. 44'34 *lakhs* and is due to the accounts of this Circle having been brought on to a commercial basis. Against this decrease the Circle showed a net revenue of Rs 20'03 *lakhs* and the returns for the last quarter estimated at some Rs. 15 *lakhs* remain to be adjusted in 1929-30. The expenditure is Rs. 9'31 *lakhs* less than last year. The commercialisation of the Utilization Circle accounts for a decrease of Rs. 12'22 *lakhs* under Conservancy and Works and an increase of Rs. 4'24 *lakhs* under capital outlay on forests, *i.e.*, a net decrease of Rs. 7'98 *lakhs*. **Forest Revenue**

143. The gross revenue receipts from irrigation works of all kinds amounted to Rs. 39'72 *lakhs*, and working expenses to Rs. 24'87 *lakhs*, giving a net revenue of 14'85 *lakhs* against Rs. 12'31 *lakhs* in the previous year. Revenue receipts from the Twante and Pegu-Sittang Canals amounted to Rs 7'23 *lakhs* and working expenses to Rs. 1'53 *lakhs* leaving a net balance of revenue of Rs 5'70 *lakhs*; the corresponding **Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue**

figures of the previous year were Rs. 7'00 *lakhs*, Rs.—0'30 *lakh* and Rs. 7'30 *lakhs* respectively. The negative expenditure was due to the repayment by the Rangoon Development Trust of expenditure incurred on their behalf in the preceding years. The gross revenue from embankment and drainage works of all kinds amounted to Rs. 20 04 *lakhs*, the working expenses to Rs. 24'72 *lakhs*, and the net revenue to Rs.—4'68 *lakhs* against Rs.—5 77 *lakhs* in the previous year.

(c) Local Funds.

144 The total receipts of the 28 District Councils, excluding opening balances and debt transactions increased from Rs. 84'60 *lakhs* to Rs. 88'84 *lakhs*. The increase is mainly due to an enhancement of direct contributions from Provincial Funds from Rs. 39 63 *lakhs* to Rs. 43 35 *lakhs*. Nearly one-half of the ordinary income of District Councils was thus derived from Government contributions, which are, however, allotted with reference to the needs of the districts, some Councils receiving over four-fifths of their income from this source, while there are four Councils which receive nothing. The revenues of the Councils from markets, ferries and cattle-pounds decreased slightly, while there was only a small increase in the receipts from slaughter houses. Recurring Provincial contributions to the Councils amounting to Rs. 38 17 *lakhs* were disbursed as in previous year mainly under four selected heads, *viz.*, Education, Public Health, Medical and Public Works. Special contributions from Provincial Funds amounting to Rs 6'35 *lakhs* were also made to District Councils and School Boards, *viz.*, for the construction of district communications (Rs. 2'32 *lakhs*), for the maintenance of new vernacular schools opened in 1927-28 (Rs. 1'17 *lakhs*), for the opening of new vernacular schools in backward and poor localities during 1928-29 (Rs. 1'57 *lakhs*), towards the pay of English Teachers in vernacular schools (Rs. 77,307) for improvements to vernacular school buildings (Rs. 38,208) and towards the cost of vaccine lymph (Rs. 14,377).

The receipts of the twenty-four Deputy Commissioners' Local Funds increased from Rs. 13'56 to Rs. 14'29 *lakhs*, of which Rs. 10 53 *lakhs* were contributed from Provincial revenues.

The total payments of District Councils, excluding debt transactions, increased from Rs. 83'93 to Rs. 94 85 *lakhs*. There was a substantial increase in the cost of general administration from Rs. 5'58 to Rs. 7 35 *lakhs* comprising an increased expenditure of Rs. 46,313 under election charges owing to the general elections to Circle Boards which took place during the year under report, and of Rs. 1'14 *lakhs* on account of capital expenditure on office buildings incurred by five Councils. The expenditure on vernacular education again showed an increase, *viz.*, from Rs. 35 09 to Rs. 37 28 *lakhs*, and that on public works from Rs. 23 38 to Rs. 28'62 *lakhs*. The total expenditure on Medical and Public Health Services was Rs. 14'80 *lakhs* against Rs. 13'48 *lakhs* in the previous year.

The total payments of Deputy Commissioners' Local Funds increased from Rs. 12'90 *lakhs* to Rs. 13'26 *lakhs* which included Rs. 6'50 *lakhs* spent on vernacular education and Rs. 2'85 *lakhs* incurred on public works. Circle Funds have not yet come into existence.

145. The gross income of the Rangoon Corporation amounted to Rs 143'61 *lakhs* against Rs. 121'61 *lakhs* in the Rangoon Municipal Fund previous year. Exclusive of extraordinary credits the net income of the year was Rs 99'37 *lakhs* showing an increase of Rs. 6'22 *lakhs* over that of 1927-28. There was an increase of about Rs 7 *lakhs* in rates and taxes. There was a decline of about half a *lakh* in the receipts from the Scott Market owing to a large number of stalls being vacant and to the revision in October 1928 of the rents for the stalls. Pawnshop license fees yielded nearly one *lakh* less than in the previous year due to lower bids for certain pawnshop licenses resold in October 1928. The gross expenditure for the year was Rs. 138'69 *lakhs* against Rs. 139'48 *lakhs* in 1927-28. Exclusive of extraordinary items the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 101'95 *lakhs* against Rs 102'63 *lakhs* in 1927-28.

146. Apart from opening balances amounting to Rs. 35'78 *lakhs* and debt accounts amounting to Rs. 6'35 *lakhs*, the total Other Municipal Funds income of the 57 municipalities other than Rangoon was Rs 76'88 *lakhs* against Rs 74'79 *lakhs* in the previous year. The income from municipal rates and taxes rose from Rs. 31'74 *lakhs* to Rs. 32'63 *lakhs*, and there was also an increase in revenue derived from municipal property and powers from Rs. 32'83 *lakhs* to Rs. 34'00 *lakhs*, the largest items of increase being the revenue from pawnshop licenses and fees from markets and slaughter-houses. Receipts from tolls on roads and ferries decreased by over Rs 16,000. No reasons for the decrease by nearly Rs 5,000 in Pakôkku and by Rs. 2,000 in Zigôn have been stated. In Taungdwingyi the decrease of nearly Rs 4,000 is attributed to less competition owing to a smaller number of carts entering the town since the advent of the Railway, while in Gyobingauk the decrease of over Rs. 2,000 is reported to be due to less competition owing to a bad harvest. A loan from Government of half a *lakh* of rupees was given to Insein Municipal Committee. This was the only loan granted by Government during the year. The incidence of taxation per head of population rose slightly from Rs. 3-14-5 to Rs. 4-0-1. The revenue from bazaar rents, slaughter-house fees and pawnshop license fees represented in many instances the principal sources of income and the revenue from water, lighting, latrine and conservancy taxes was in many cases insufficient to meet the expenditure on these services. Receipts from markets and slaughter-houses declined from Rs. 1'06 *lakhs* to Rs. 1'01 *lakhs* in the Sagaing Division and from Rs. 5'26 *lakhs* to Rs. 5'23 *lakhs* in the Irrawaddy Division, while pawnshop license fees in the Irrawaddy Division fell from Rs. 1'38 *lakhs* to Rs 1'17 *lakhs*.

The annual rental value basis of taxation was substituted for the "covered area" or "street frontage" basis in the case of the tax on buildings and lands in Bhamo and also for the scavenging and latrine taxes in Yangoon. The following new taxes were levied:—in Bhamo and Syriam a lighting tax, in Taungdwingyi a water tax, in Kyaukse a tax on vehicles, in Mònywa a toll on vehicles and in Myanaung a tax on motor vehicles. The rate of tax on buildings and lands in Shwebo and the tax and toll on vehicles in Syriam were enhanced. Before the close of the year proposals were submitted by the Wakema Municipal Committee for the imposition of a lighting tax and by the Mergui Municipal Committee for enhancing the tax on vehicles. Ordinary expenditure

rose from Rs. 75'46 lakhs to Rs. 87'52 lakhs. Expenditure on Public Health and Convenience was Rs. 53'31 lakhs against Rs 44'01 lakhs in the previous year

Notified Areas—Apart from the opening balances and extraordinary receipts, the total income of notified areas was Rs 9'03 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6'67 lakhs in the previous year. Ordinary expenditure rose from Rs. 5'87 lakhs to Rs. 7'05 lakhs, while the incidence of taxation per head of population fell from Rs. 2-15-11 to Rs 2-13-8

147. Of the two branches of the Rangoon Development Trust Fund the Government Estate which is administered by the Trust on behalf of Government, yielded a gross revenue of Rs 16'40 lakhs against Rs. 16'02 lakhs in 1927-28. Rentals increased from Rs 14'85 lakhs to Rs 15'47 lakhs which is very satisfactory and it is anticipated they will further increase. Premia fell from Rs 26,500 to Rs. 10,700. The sum obtained as interest fell from Rs. 53,200 to Rs. 37,000 due mainly to the discharge of Reclamation Loan No 26. Since the interest received on this account amounted in 1927-28 to Rs. 21,300 the amount received during the year represents an improvement on normal conditions. The expenditure on revenue account was Rs. 8'78 lakhs against Rs 8'94 lakhs. Charges for collection of revenue fell from Rs 1'88 lakhs to Rs. 1'70 lakhs and the expenditure on general administration fell from Rs. 1'66 lakhs to Rs 1'57 lakhs. The financial position of the Government Estate is steadily improving.

The gross revenue on the General Development side increased from Rs. 8'80 lakhs to Rs. 8'83 lakhs. This was chiefly made up of Rs. 4'95 lakhs terminal tax, Rs. 2'63 lakhs stamp duty, and Rs. 1'00 lakh being the contribution from the Corporation. The remaining Rs. 25,000 was obtained from interest (Rs. 13,000), rents (Rs 8,000) and miscellaneous (Rs. 4,000). The main difficulty as regards rentals is the uncertainty when the Corporation will be in a position to provide a water supply for the areas in the north-east of Rangoon. The expenditure on revenue account was Rs. 3'98 lakhs compared with Rs 4'00 lakhs in 1927-28. There was a reduction in general administration charges from Rs. 83,200 to Rs 78,700 which represents the last stage of the reductions in establishment which have been carried out. The sum transferred from Revenue to Capital Account was Rs. 4'85 lakhs against Rs. 4'80 lakhs in 1927-28. The sale of land realized Rs 11,417. Expenditure on General Development works amounted to Rs. 4'41 lakhs including Rs 2'68 lakhs for main communications. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 2'16 lakhs against Rs. 3'48 lakhs at the end of 1927-28.

148. The Rangoon Port Trust began the year with a balance of Rs. 6'02 lakhs and ended with one of Rs. 5'68 lakhs on the 31st March 1929. On that date the Trust was indebted to the public Rs. 4,13,62,000 on account of rupee loans and £500,000 for sterling loans. In addition a debt of Rs. 40,26,766 was due to Government. The Sinking Fund had at the end of the year securities of the face value of Rs. 1,77,93,150, a fixed deposit of Rs. 14,12,000 in the banks and a sum of uninvested cash amounting to Rs. 6,420. The ordinary receipts and expenditure during the year amounted respectively to Rs. 81'77 lakhs and Rs. 87'31 lakhs against Rs. 86'27 lakhs and Rs. 92'78 lakhs in 1927-28.

on receipts is due mainly to a reduction in the earnings under the heads of landing charges, demurrage and river dues. The balance at credit of the Reserve Funds on the 31st March 1929 was Rs. 115'22 *lakhs* against Rs. 114'52 *lakhs* on the same date in 1928.

149. In addition to the Rangoon Port Trust Fund dealt with above, port funds were maintained at Bassein, Moulmein, Akyab, Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu, as in the preceding year. There was an increase in the receipts of all these funds except Akyab and Tavoy and a decrease on the expenditure for all the funds except Kyaukpyu. The total receipts and expenditure of the Fund were Rs. 8'88 *lakhs* and Rs. 7'56 *lakhs* against Rs. 9'13 *lakhs* and Rs. 9'07 *lakhs* of last year. The ordinary receipts and expenditure of the Rangoon Pilot Fund were Rs. 6'64 *lakhs* and Rs. 7'05 *lakhs* against Rs. 6'51 *lakhs* and Rs. 6'57 *lakhs* of the previous year. The Pilot Vessels Depreciation Fund had on the 31st March 1929 securities of the face value of Rs. 3'61 *lakhs* and cash of Rs. 0'15 *lakh*. The total receipts and expenditure of the three other pilot funds of Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein were Rs. 3'55 *lakhs* and Rs. 3'36 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 3'14 *lakhs* and Rs. 2'63 *lakhs* respectively in the previous year. The aggregate closing balance of these three pilot funds was Rs. 2'21 *lakhs* compared with Rs. 2'02 *lakhs* of the preceding year.

The Rangoon University Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 3'85 *lakhs*. The receipts and expenditure were Rs. 3'12 *lakhs* and Rs. 5'53 *lakhs*, respectively, compared with Rs. 3'35 *lakhs* and Rs. 3'75 *lakhs* of the previous year. The opening balance was Rs. 3'85 *lakhs* and the closing balance Rs. 1'44 *lakhs*.

The number of cantonment funds was five as against four in the previous year. The increase is due to the formation of the Mingaladon Cantonment. The total receipts and expenditure, excluding debt accounts, amounted to Rs. 3'57 *lakhs* and Rs. 3'42 *lakhs*, respectively, compared with Rs. 2'27 *lakhs* and Rs. 2'30 *lakhs* in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 1'30 in receipts and of Rs. 1'12 in expenditure is mainly due to the addition of the Mingaladon Cantonment Fund. There was a decrease in the receipts of Mandalay Cantonment and an increase in those of Rangoon, Maymyo and Bhamo, and an increase of expenditure in Mandalay, Maymyo and Bhamo and a decrease in Rangoon Cantonment. The closing balances of the four older cantonments were less than those of the previous year but the 10 *per cent.* working balance has been maintained by all.

Paper Currency.

150. The average total active circulation of currency notes in 1928-29 was Rs. 45'09 crores as against Rs. 42'05 crores in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 3'04 crores is due to the increased use of currency notes in place of coins in the financing of the rice and cotton trades and to the growing use of paper money generally. The issue of Re. 1 and 2-8 notes has been discontinued and notes of these denominations received at treasuries and currency offices are being cancelled. One, five, ten and one hundred rupee notes supplied, respectively, 5'00 *per cent.*, 15'58 *per cent.*, 61'56 *per cent.* and 17'65 *per cent.* of the total value of the average circulation of all notes except the ten thousand rupee denomination.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Public Health Administration of Burma for the year 1928.
 Triennial Report on the Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the years 1926—28.
 Annual Report on the working of the Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1928-29.
 Report on the working of the Burma Pasteur Institute and Bacteriological Laboratory, Rangoon, for the year ending the 31st December 1928 and the 31st March 1929, respectively.
 Report on the working of the Mental Hospitals in Burma for the year 1928
 Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1926-27 to 1928-29
 Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume III.

Births and Deaths.

151 The total area and population under regular registration remained the same as in previous years but the relative areas and population classified as rural and urban were modified during the year by the transfer of Chauk to the urban area and the extension of the boundaries of the towns of Thongwa and Pyapôn. The returns of some of the backward areas, as well as those in which the primitive system of registration by tally sticks was in vogue, were excluded from the statistics of the province. The increase in population by the excess of births over deaths was 49,592, and by excess of immigrants over emigrants at the sea ports, 85,692, or a total of 135,284.

152. Births, deaths and infant deaths in the province numbered 279,914, 230,322 and 58,643, respectively, and the rates are compared with those of the previous two years in the following table :—

| Particulars. | Rural | | | Urban. | | | Provincial. | | |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | 1926. | 1927. | 1928 | 1926. | 1927. | 1928. | 1926. | 1927 | 1928. |
| Birth rate | 27·43 | 24·70 | 25·41 | 28·75 | 27·98 | 29·33 | 27·59 | 25·08 | 25·86 |
| Death rate | 18·78 | 17·38 | 18·82 | 37·41 | 36·21 | 40·08 | 20·92 | 19·55 | 21·28 |
| Infant mortality | 186·50 | 184·34 | 192·13 | 310·58 | 291·01 | 324·37 | 201·40 | 198·06 | 209·50 |

Rural birth-rates.—High rates for rural areas were returned from Tavoy (45'24), Kyauksè (42'58), Prome (39'46), Sandoway (36'83), Amherst (36'56), Shwebo (33'62), Mergui (33'36), Pakokku (29'40), Sagaing (29'05), Minbu (28'27), Thayetmyo (27'73) and Yamèthin. (27'21); and low rates by Kyaukpyu (15'31), Thaton (16'78), Pegu (18'92) and Toungoo (19'64).

Urban birth-rates.—Births in towns increased by 1,868 Rates much below the provincial urban average (29'33) were recorded at Chauk (13'00), Kamayut (14'04), Akyab (14'93), Thamaing (18'74), Danubyu (19'72), Paungdè (20'28), Thayetmyo (20'98), Kyaiklat (21'03), Thingangyun (21'15) and Syriam (21'19), while high rates (above 34) were returned from Tavoy (34'02), Thaton (34'13), Pymmana (34'53), Yenangyaung (34'58), Tharrawaddy (34'76), Monywa (35'56), Pyawbwe (35'71), Sagaing (35'76), Minbu (36'65), Pegu (36'92), Salin (39'22), Kyauksè (41'10), Maymyo (42'52), Taungdwingyi (42'66), Shwebo (42'72), Thonze (43'98), Myitngè (44'49), Kawkareik (47'67), Mandalay (51'89), and Ye-u (52'15).

The low rates are attributed to defective registration and disparity in the numbers of the two sexes resulting from a floating population of adventitious male labour; while the high rates are attributed to the adoption of model registration bye-laws and more efficient supervision.

Still-births—There were 2,361 still-births in urban and 884 in rural areas against 2,117 and 1,069 in 1927. The provincial average for 1928 was 11'59 per 1,000 registered births and the rates for Rangoon and Mandalay were 78'51 and 54'61. Few still-births were registered in rural areas although one or two headmen here and there made an attempt to obtain the figures.

Maternal deaths from child-birth—Mothers who died of child-birth in towns numbered 454; of these 80 were at Mandalay, 25 at Rangoon, 23 at Prome and 23 at Pakokku. The total number of births—including still-births in urban areas—was 39,131, so that the death rate from child birth is 11'60 per 1,000 births, which, when compared with the rate of 4'11 in England in 1927 brings home the great need of maternity work in this country.

Rural death-rates.—The rural death rate of 18'82 may be compared with 17'38 for 1927 and a mean of 18'29 for the last five years. Relatively high rates were recorded for Kyauksè (35'42), Prome (26'92), Minbu (25'74), Shwebo (25'50), Tavoy (24'96), Sagaing (23'43), Mandalay (23'30) and Pakokku (23'27). In the following seven districts which returned particularly low death rates it is noted that both birth and death rates have been dropping for a period of years, thereby indicating that registration is markedly defective: Tharrawaddy (13'08), Thaton (13'71), Kyaukpyu (13'83), Henzada (14'11), Myaungmya (14'48), Hanthawaddy (15'33) and Pegu (15'51).

Urban death-rates.—The provincial urban death rate of 40'08 is the highest since 1921. An analysis of the rate shows that when compared with last year there is a marked increase in the principal disease groups. Respiratory diseases have increased by 0'60, plague by 0'54, fevers by 0'42, cholera by 0'20, small-pox by 0'15, dysentery and diarrhoea by 0'13, injuries by 0'06 and all other causes by 1'77. We have had therefore an unhealthy year. Towns showing excessively high rates are Pyapôn (63'63), Kyaikto (63'20), Nyaunglebin (62'43), Taungdwingyi (58'99), Pegu (58'13), Sagaing (57'43), Pakokku (56'13), Moulmein

(55'76), Yenangyaung (55'49), Mandalay (53'55), Mambu (53'11), Kyaukse (52'56), Kawkareik (52'22), Pyawbwé (51'23), Salin (50'48) and Prome (50'41).

Infantile mortality—Children who died in the first year of their life numbered 58,643 against 53,754 in 1927 giving, respectively, the ratios of 209.50 and 198.06 per thousand live births. Nearly 27 per cent of the infants died in the first month; 54 per cent. in the following five months and 19 per cent. during the second six months. The rural rate was 192.13 against 180.59, the five yearly mean. High rates were returned from Shwebo (251.14), Kyaukse (250.39), Pegu (248.02), Prome (241.19), Mandalay (238.63), Mambu (230.97), Sandoway (220.47), Thayetmyo (218.94), while low rates were recorded in Mergui (105.25), Amherst (124.56), Tavoy (136.24), and Akyab (153.93). The urban infant mortality this year was 324.37 compared with 291.01 in 1927. Chauk returned the highest rate of 712.33 while Nyaunglebin came next with a rate of 629.41. Other towns which recorded high rates were Pakôkku (532.92), Kawkareik (522.29), Magwe (492.98), Gyobingauk (473.68), Myingyan (447.82), and Monywa (426.83). The lowest rate of 137.10 was returned from Nattalin.

Infant welfare.—Whilst almost all the infant societies in the province mainly did maternity work, effort was made by a large number of them to follow up the children for varying periods after birth. In June, the Child Welfare Society at Monywa gave up maternity work and confined its attention to the treatment and promotion of the health of babies under two years of age. The Rangoon Society also contemplates including child welfare within its scope. In Maymyo the Lady Innes Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was opened during the year. This was the first real Child Welfare Centre to be established in the country.

153. The registered mortality from different causes in both rural and urban areas in 1928 is compared below with the figures of 1927 :—

| Causes. | 1927. | | | 1928. | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Rural. | Urban. | Total | Rural. | Urban. | Total |
| Cholera .. | 3,286 | 1,242 | 4,528 | 5,718 | 1,491 | 7,209 |
| Small-pox ... | 1,007 | 697 | 1,704 | 1,941 | 884 | 2,825 |
| Plague ... | 1,016 | 2,492 | 3,508 | 1,746 | 3,187 | 4,933 |
| Fevers .. | 69,353 | 5,968 | 75,321 | 70,283 | 6,532 | 76,815 |
| Dysentery and diarrhoea. | 5,197 | 3,082 | 8,279 | 6,102 | 3,259 | 9,361 |
| Respiratory diseases. | 2,375 | 8,729 | 11,104 | 2,710 | 9,532 | 12,242 |
| Suicide ... | 120 | 31 | 151 | 187 | 55 | 242 |
| Wounding and accident. | 1,118 | 1,096 | 2,214 | 1,192 | 1,181 | 2,373 |
| Snake-bite or killed by wild beasts. | 1,413 | 53 | 1,466 | 1,442 | 36 | 1,478 |
| Rabies ... | 178 | 40 | 218 | 246 | 30 | 276 |
| All other causes | 81,319 | 21,731 | 103,050 | 88,514 | 24,054 | 112,568 |
| Total ... | 166,382 | 45,161 | 211,543 | 160,081 | 50,241 | 230,322 |

Cholera.—The death rate from cholera has increased from 0·42 in 1927 to 0·67 in the year under review. High mortality for rural areas has been returned from Akyab (2·54), Meiktila (2·18), Mandalay (1·62), Pyapon (0·99), Yamèthin (0·91) and Kyaukpyu (0·86), and for urban areas by Pyu (11·83), Moulmeingyun (10·79), Pyapôn (7·40), Magwe (6·14), Maubin (5·14) and Yandoon (5·03). The severity of the epidemic acted as an incentive for people to submit to inoculation. During the year over 186,430 inoculations were performed as compared with 62,467 done in 1927.

Small-pox.—The death rate for the province was 0·26 against the previous five years' mean of 0·24. Toungoo district (1·08) and Pyawbwè town (12·4) were severely affected.

Plague.—The provincial death rate was 0·46 compared with 0·32 for 1927 and 0·44 the five yearly mean. The principal measures adopted were, as in years past, rat destruction and inoculation. Out of a total of 888,213 rats destroyed, Rangoon Corporation alone accounted for 861,827. The number of plague inoculations performed was 101,142 or 1,717 less than in the previous year. Plague inoculation is not so popular as cholera inoculation probably because of the febrile reaction which follows the former.

Fever.—The death rate for the province was 7·10 against the five yearly mean of 6·85 and the previous year's ratio of 6·96. The highest rates for rural areas were returned from Tavoy (18·43), Kyauksè (13·71), Thayetmyo (12·78), Prome (12·33), Akyab (12·22), Minbu (12·16), Pakôkku (11·37) and Mergu (10·32). Low fever ratios were returned from Maubin (2·90), Myaungmya (3·99), Henzada (4·02), Myingyan (4·02), Meiktila (4·25), Amherst (4·28), Magwe (4·35) and Hanthawaddy (4·79).

Malaria.—The number of deaths attributed to malarial fever in urban areas for which statistics are available was 2,559 against 2,373 in 1927, the death rates being 2·04 and 1·90, respectively. Malarial surveys were conducted during the year at Mezañ in the Minbu District and Shwenyaung—the new railway terminus in the Southern Shan States. Clearance of scrub jungle, draining of tanks, filling up of swamps and other anti-malarial operations were carried out in Hsipaw town.

Enteric Fever.—Deaths due to this cause in urban areas were 513 against 441 in the previous year, the death rates being 0·41 and 0·35, respectively. High rates were recorded from Kyaiklat (3·36), Pyapon (3·21), Wakema (1·30), Pynmana (1·14) and Mandalay (1·07).

154 During the year the Prison Department manufactured 3,651,600 cinchona febrifuge tablets of four grains each and the stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 150,200 tablets. Issues to Treasury Officers and others amounted to 3,626,200 tablets, and the year closed with a balance of 175,600 tablets. The sales at the treasuries amounted to 3,370,800 tablets, which when compared with those of 1927 shows a fall of 17·81 *per cent*. Free issues on a large scale were given in the Katha, Kyauksè, Chin Hills and Myitkyna Districts. The average consumption of cinchona febrifuge per head of population declined from 1·49 grains in 1927 to 1·32 grains in 1928.

Immigration and Emigration.

155. The total number of immigrants by sea was 418,698 and of emigrants 333,006. The increase in population by the excess of immigrants over emigrants was 85,692 against 67,052 in 1927.

Medical Relief.

156. The total number of hospitals and dispensaries open at the end of the year was 303 or 6 more than in the previous year. The number of hospitals brought under the Rural Self-Government Act was 58, and under the Deputy Commissioners' Local Funds, 32. Useful work was done by the travelling dispensaries. The number of subsidised medical practitioners was 20 in 1928, and their work was satisfactory. The number of registered medical practitioners at the end of 1928 was 1,164, and of registered midwives and nurses, 967. During the year 15 *Sesayas* completed a course of training in Western methods of medical treatment, of which 8 were trained at Mandalay and 7 at Bassem.

157. The number of patients treated at the Civil Hospitals was 2,378,214, an increase of 141,595. There was a slight increase in the number of Burmese patients treated during the year. The attendance of females at all hospitals has steadily increased. Indoor patients totalled 102,804, with a death rate of nearly 6·7 per cent. The daily average number of in-patients was 4,866 and the number of beds available, 6,189. The number of operations performed rose to 90,424 with a death rate of 0·92 per cent. The number of patients treated in other institutions including Railway Dispensaries, Police, Forest and Public Works Department Hospitals, and by subsidised medical practitioners was 268,226. Of these, 16,884 patients were treated by subsidised medical practitioners, 66,460 at Military Police Hospitals and 138,221 at the Railway Hospitals. Malaria continues to be the chief disease for which patients are treated, and it accounted for 1/7th of the total. Tuberculosis continues to claim a heavy toll of victims and better preventive measures are under consideration. At the end of the year venereal clinics were opened at 26 hospitals, which now provide free treatment and free bacteriological service.

158. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma excepting those in the Federated Shan States, and Railway Military Police and other special hospitals was about Rs. 45½ lakhs. A considerable part of the increase of about 1½ lakhs over the previous year was due to the construction of new Hospital Buildings and the inclusion of leave salaries, increments of pay, etc., of medical officers and other staff.

159. Progress in the construction of hospitals was hampered by financial stringency. The new Mental Hospital, Tadagale, was completed and occupied. The Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon, for women, has been completed except for the out-patient building and some staff quarters. The

Women and Children's Ward at Mandalay has also been completed. The Civil Hospital at Insein was occupied on the 1st March 1929. Additional wards were built at some of the Leper Asylums. The following important works are in progress :—Medical College Buildings, the new Operation Theatre and X-Ray Block at Mandalay, and Gynæcological Ward of the Dufferin Hospital

160 The number of Indian Medical Service Officers on the rolls at the close of the year was 36 against the sanctioned cadre of 38. Eleven officers were on leave, one on deputation to Foreign Service under the University of Rangoon, and only 24 were available to fill the cadre appointments. The number of Military Assistant Surgeons on the roll was 22, including 6 employed in the Public Health Department, and one temporarily re-employed after retirement, against the sanctioned cadre of 24. Including the temporary staff there were 72 Civil Assistant Surgeons on the rolls at the end of the year. Owing to the shortage of Indian Medical Service Officers, many Civil Assistant Surgeons were acting as Civil Surgeons

The number of private practitioners in service was six including the part-time post of Medical Registrar, General Hospital, Rangoon. The number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons on the rolls on the 31st December 1928 was 433. The cadre was revised up to 1st September 1928, and the number of appointments fixed at 441.

The sanctioned number of stations under the Subsidised Medical Relief Scheme is 26, namely, 22 ordinary places and 4 special places. During the year 1928, there were 20 subsidised medical practitioners, including one on leave. They were given premia varying from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 per mensem, for ordinary places, and Rs. 100 to Rs. 125 per mensem, for special places.

The opening of laboratories at Akyab, Bassein, Moulmein, Toungoo, Mandalay and Myitkyina was sanctioned by the Local Government. Six Sub-Assistant Surgeons were trained in laboratory work in Rangoon and posted to these places.

161 The year began with 83 students on the roll. Twenty-three students appeared in October 1928, for the Final Examination but only 16 passed, and the rest were remanded for further periods. Practical midwifery training was given at the Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon. The general progress of the school was satisfactory.

162 The calendar year will be the basis of Reports for the Pasteur Institute in future. The number of patients treated at the Pasteur Institute during the nine months ending 31st December 1928 was 1,601. Of these, 356 were advised that treatment was unnecessary, 288 absconded and in 104 cases the continuation of the treatment was found unnecessary, so that 853 went through the full course of treatment. There were two deaths among the fully treated patients, one of which occurred five days and the other 30 days after the completion of treatment. Of the 1,245 patients treated 794 were from Rangoon and the rest from up country.

163. The occupation of the new Mental Hospital at Tadagale was completed on 30th December 1928. Accommodation is provided for 886 male, and 165 female patients. The total population at Tadagale at the end of 1928 was 1,024 of whom 867 were males and 157 females. The daily average at the hospital was 996. The accommodation provided at the Mental Hospital, Minbu, is for 138 males. The average population during the year was 124. The source of water supply at Tadagale is from tube wells. There was some difficulty with regard to this supply and arrangements have had to be made for a supply from the Corporation Main. The general health of the inmates of both the hospitals was good and no epidemic broke out during the year. Patients were employed in weaving, gardening, carpentry, cooking, etc. The weaving factories provided all the necessary clothing for the patients. A sufficient quantity of vegetables of good quality was produced, and sports, entertainments and readings were encouraged to alleviate confinement. The total ordinary expenditure on Mental Hospitals in Rangoon and Minbu in 1928 was 4'31 *lakhs*, as against Rs 3'42 *lakhs* in 1927.

Public Health.

164. Eighteen projects were considered by the Provincial Public Health Board during the year compared with 26 in 1927. The Projects Sub-Committee held four meetings and the General Board three meetings. Grants sanctioned amounted to Rs. 2,37,315 compared with Rs 3,81,397 in the year 1927. Besides considering the various Public Health Projects and applications for Grants, the Board took the initiative for the preparation of a geological survey of Rangoon and its environs in connection with the Rangoon water supply scheme.

The total amount spent in the province on Civil Sanitary Works was Rs 82'85 *lakhs* of which Rs. 22'45 *lakhs* were expended on water supply, Rs. 27'61 *lakhs* on conservancy and Rs 5'91 *lakhs* on drainage. The provincial percentage of total expenditure on Civil Sanitary Works to total income was 17'24, the percentage in towns being 22'89 and in the districts 7'95.

Vaccination

165. The number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons receiving vaccination allowance and employed as part-time Supervisors was 31 against 28 in the preceding two years and that of Public Health Inspectors 13 against 11 in 1927-28 and 9 in 1926-27. The number of Inspectors of Vaccination was 42 the decrease of one over the previous year being due to the death of an Inspector of Vaccination in Bassein, whose place was filled by a Public Health Inspector. The cadre of Head Vaccinators was augmented by the creation of a new post in Lomwe Subdivision and the filling up of a vacant post in Karenni State. Seven new posts of vaccinators were created in the province, but as the services of six temporary vaccinators employed last year were dispensed with in the course of the year under review, there was a net increase of only one incumbent in this cadre.

The Municipal Committees of Pegu, Prome, Monywa and Syriam, and the Town Committees of Zigon, Thungangyun and Kanbè have taken advantage of the Burma Vaccination Law Amendment (Amendment) Act of 1928 (Burma Act IV of 1928) and framed rules for making re-vaccination compulsory in their areas. It is hoped that other Municipal and Town Committees will soon follow suit. During the year the Vaccination Acts were extended to the Shwebo and Lower Chindwin Districts. The beneficial results on the incidence and deaths from small-pox due to the extension of the Acts are becoming more and more evident and it is hoped that before long other District Councils which have not yet adopted compulsory primary vaccination will avail themselves of the provisions of the Acts to check the ravages of this disease.

166. The number of primary and re-vaccinations has been steadily increasing for some years and the current year's figures are the highest on record. The total number of persons vaccinated during the year was 946,761, of whom 936,440 were vaccinated by the special staff, 9,444 in Dispensaries and 877 by other agencies. In addition to this, under the Vaccination Law Amendment Act of 1909 and Burma Act IV of 1928, 186,966 labourers landing at the Port of Rangoon were vaccinated by the Corporation Vaccination Staff under the supervision of Port Health Authorities. The total number of operations performed during 1928-29 by the special staff of the department and other agencies amounted to 948,722, of which 615,519 were primary and 333,203 re-vaccinations. Thus 58,997 primary operations and 10,093 re-vaccinations were recorded in excess of the previous year's figures. This increase in operations was mainly due to the rise in the incidence of small-pox, the prevalence in epidemic form being in many cases the direct incentive. When compared with the operations performed last year 30 districts showed an increase and 11 a decrease. The largest increase was returned from Yamethin (25,070), followed by Akyab (17,899), Northern Shan States (17,010), Mandalay (13,925) and Amherst (12,725). Rangoon town showed the largest decrease in vaccination with 55,092 operations less than last year; but the decrease was chiefly confined to re-vaccinations under which head 53,739 fewer operations were performed than in 1927-28. The only two districts which showed a large decrease in vaccinations were Magwe (-15,329) and Tavoy (-4,588). Successful primary operations performed in rural areas amounted to 507,792 and in urban areas to 49,097 making a total of 556,889, against 484,461 in 1927-28. The percentage of success in primary vaccination in which the results were known was 97.11 against 92.16 in the previous year. The rural areas which returned a high percentage of successful primary cases were Tharrawaddy (100.00), Myaungmya (100.00), Maubin (99.90), Pegu (99.82), Henzada (99.50), Prome (99.40), Kyaukse (99.38), Amherst (99.30), Toungoo (99.28), and Pyapon (99.05); while those which returned low percentage rates were Chin Hills district (82.75), Mergui (84.88), Sandoway (86.28) and Arakan Hill Tracts (88.80). The long time taken for the lymph to reach these border districts probably accounted for the low rates. Cent-per-cent success in primary cases was reported from 24 towns and a success rate, above 99 *per cent.* was returned from 12 towns. Low rates were recorded in the towns of Akyab (69.24 *per cent.*), Thayetmyo 90.34 *per cent.*, Chauk (86.83 *per cent.*), Myitkyina (88.42 *per cent.*) and

Sadoway (89'00 *per cent.*, The number of re-vaccinations performed was 333,203 (of which 254,035 were in rural areas and 79,368 in towns) against 320,248 in the previous year. Of these 99,118 cases were returned as successful giving a rate of 36'22 *per cent* against 39'88 *per cent* in 1927-28. The results in 59,510 cases were unknown

In the 73 towns of the province there were 37,593 births registered during the year out of which 11,306 infants died before attaining the age of one year, thus leaving 26,287 survivors available for vaccination; but the total number of children (under one year) returned as successfully vaccinated in these towns was 32,707, which indicates that either birth registration was defective or the returns of such vaccinations are unreliable.

District Health Officers and Assistant District Health Officers inspected the results of 98,926 (or 10'45 *per cent.*) of the total number vaccinated, against 74,374 (or 8'47 *per cent*) in 1927-28, which indicates a decided improvement on the inspection work of the previous year. Of primary cases 74,239 (or 12'10 *per cent*, and of revaccinations 24,687 (or 7'41 *per cent.*) were inspected. The total number of persons inspected by Inspectors of Vaccination and other inspecting officers was 442,673 (or 46'76 *per cent*) as compared with 438,952 (or 50'01 *per cent.*) in 1927-28.

167. The total cost of the Department during the year was Rs 3'93 lakhs compared with Rs 4'03 lakhs in 1927-28 and Rs. 3'86 lakhs in 1926-27. There was an increase over the previous year's expenditure on pay of establishment, the staff being on a time scale of pay. The average cost of a successful vaccination during the year was Rs. 0-9-7 compared with Rs. 0-11-1 in 1927-28 and Rs. 0-11-7 in 1926-27

168. During the year 363 cow-calves and 15 buffalo-calves were successfully vaccinated. The average yield per cow-calf was 516'18 grains and of buffalo calf 1827'14 grains as compared with the corresponding figures of 457'09 and 2069'88 grains for the previous year. The total number of doses issued from the depôt was 1,376,338 against 1,136,232 issued in 1927-28. Forty-four thousand three hundred and twenty-four doses were supplied free to the Army, Jails and Government Vaccinators at Kanpetlet and Chin Hills, and the balance of 1,332,014 was supplied to municipalities, district councils and private practitioners on payment. The total expenditure of the depôt during 1928-29 was Rs. 37,697-2-1 but if the sum of Rs. 37,322-11-6 realised from the sale of lymph and vaccinated calves is set off against the expenditure, the net cost to Government on account of the depôt comes to Rs. 374-6-7 only. Seventy-seven apprentice vaccinators, including 6 ladies, were trained during the year and all passed the qualifying examination. Twenty-one Public Health Inspectors and 6 Sub-Assistant Surgeons also underwent training.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION

REFERENCES—

Annual Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1928-29.

Statistical Abstract for British India

General System of Public Instruction.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 259 to 285 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22, and to the paragraphs under this heading in the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1925-26

Educational Progress

169. The year under review was, on the whole, a year of steady progress. Vernacular Schools, which comprise three-fourths of the Provincial total, are controlled by various Local Authorities, namely, 58 Municipal Committees, 14 Town Committees, 26 District School Boards and 2 Joint School Boards, besides 21 Deputy Commissioners, in charge of education in "excluded areas". Municipal or Town Committees control 630 schools, or 11 *per cent* of the total, Joint School Boards 245 or 4 *per cent*., the Deputy Commissioners 758 or 13 *per cent*. The remainder 4,165 or 72 *per cent* are controlled by the District Boards.

English and Anglo-Vernacular Schools are controlled by the Director of Public Instruction with the advice of the Secondary Schools Board, and by various missionary and private bodies.

170. There were 7,282 recognised schools, attended by 503,564 pupils against 7,123 schools attended by 478,441 pupils in 1927-28. There was an increase of pupils in every stage of instruction. In the Collegiate Stage the total rose from 1,726 to 1,732, in the High Stage from 6,697 to 7,891, in the Middle Stage from 39,330 to 41,313, in the Upper Primary Stage from 75,643 to 79,653 and in the Lower Primary Stage from 336,855 to 353,321. The total recorded expenditure on education in 1928-29 was Rs 2,16,29,743 or Rs 2,14,594 less than in 1927-28, but the Provincial contribution to the University Buildings Trust Fund fell from 25 to 21 *lakhs*. The figures include expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department on educational buildings and on certain institutions not under the control of the Department, besides the expenditure on education in the Federated Shan States. Pensionary and other charges on account of Education Officers, expenditure in England and the value of timber grants to vernacular schools are excluded..

The expenditure was met as follows :—

[The figures in brackets refer to the year 1927-28]

- (i) From Provincial Funds, Rs. 1,02,20,423 (Rs. 1,11,05,710), a decrease of Rs. 8,85,287.
- (ii) From Rural Local Funds, Rs. 28,36,070 (Rs. 27,66,486), an increase of Rs. 69,584.
- (iii) From Municipal Funds, Rs. 12,01,887 (Rs. 10,01,339), an increase of Rs. 2,00,548.
- (iv) From Fees, Rs. 40,25,707 (Rs. 34,57,381), an increase of Rs. 5,68,326
- (v) From Other Sources, Rs. 28,65,770 (Rs. 31,31,910), a decrease of Rs. 2,66,140.
- (vi) Shan States Federated Funds, Rs. 4,79,886 (Rs. 3,81,513), an increase of Rs. 98,373.

Expenditure from "Other Sources" is that incurred by private persons and bodies, mainly Missions or Managers.

Expenditure on education is thus met from three sources, *viz.*, Public Funds, Fees, and Other Sources. Over 50 *per cent.* of the expenditure shown as from Rural Local Funds in the above figures was contributed by Provincial Funds.

The average expenditure per head of the population in 1928-29 was Re. 1-10-2, of which Re. 1-1-10 was met from Public Funds, the average expenditure for the previous year being Re. 1-10-5, of which Re. 1-2-5 was from Public Funds.

The average cost of education per head of the pupils educated was Rs. 28'5 as against Rs. 28'6 in the previous year. The cost of University education per student was Rs. 1,069'8 (1,066'1); the cost of Secondary education per pupil was Rs. 45 03 (43 2), of Upper Primary education Rs. 7 3 (7'2); of Lower Primary education Rs. 6'6 (7'3). The cost per head in Training Schools was Rs. 280 9 (291 4) and in other Special Schools Rs. 36'09 (47'08).

The returns show 18,290 (18,325) private schools attended by 201,614 (197,441) pupils, a decrease of 35 schools but an increase of 4,173 pupils; 130 (126) of the schools with 5,792 (5,341) pupils are Mohammedan Schools teaching the *Koran*; the average attendance at these schools is 44. The remaining 18,160 (18,199) schools have an attendance of only 195,822 (192,100), *i.e.*, 10 or 11 pupils per school. They are almost all unrecognised monastic schools. The teaching in them is casual, and consists mainly of the three Rs Reading, Writing and Religion, sometimes accompanied by a little rude Arithmetic. Government said years ago that the treatment of the monastic school was one of the main educational problems of Burma, and the problem will become acute when an attempt is made to introduce compulsory education.

171. The number of Upper Primary schools increased to 4,218

(4,061) and the pupils attending them to 249,723 (233,191). Lower Primary schools

fell to 620 (632) but the attendance, 28,280, remained about the same. The decline in the number of schools is due to the inability of the Local Authorities to recognise new ones, which usually begin as Lower Primary Passes in the second standard examination increased by 4,000 to 41,469 and in the fourth standard by 1,500 to 13,513. This is

a welcome increase, but those remaining in the Lower Primary Standards are still far too numerous, 81 *per cent.* of a total in Primary Standards of 432,974.

The total number of boys receiving Primary education in schools of all classes was 252,875, an increase of 10,000. Girls increased even more rapidly by 11,000 to 180,099. These figures are satisfactory, and it would be difficult to provide the teachers that would be required by any large measure of compulsory education. The attempts at introducing such measures in India have achieved no marked success; indeed compulsory education is both more workable and more necessary in an industrial than in an agricultural community. A Compulsory Education Bill has, however, been drafted by Mr. J. P. Bulkeley, and is now under the consideration of Government. One of the problems to be faced is the unrecognised monastic school. These number 14,221 with 140,609 pupils and it will be equally difficult to welcome or exclude them.

The number of recognised monastic schools has again fallen, from 1,120 to 1,080, but the number of children attending them has increased from 77,622 to 80,321, so that the average attendance per school has risen from 69 to 74. Increased attendance per school, one of the advantages to be derived from compulsory education, is here coming automatically.

The five-year scheme.—This was the fourth year of the scheme whereby 250 new schools have been established yearly. It was an endeavour to extend education in the poorer districts. Inspecting officers have done their best to make the scheme a success, it was often difficult to create a demand for the school and to provide it with teachers.

The really urgent problem is not how to make education compulsory, but how to pay for the education we already have and for what is now demanded without compulsion. The cost of elementary education for every child of school-going age would be about Rs. 2,80,00,000. The present expenditure on such education is Rs. 40,00,000.

172. The qualifications of teachers in secondary schools remain low.

Secondary Education Of the 410 teachers in English schools only 32 are graduates and 324 hold certificates. In

Anglo-Vernacular schools out of 2,723 teachers 338 are graduates (mostly Indians) and 2,102 are certificated. Classifying according to management, we get in Government schools 477 certificated teachers out of 563, that is to say, 85 *per cent.* or one certificated teacher to 27 pupils; in ordinary aided schools there were 1,760 certificated teachers out of 2,051, that is 86 *per cent.* or one certificated teacher to 23 pupils. In the special class of National Schools there are only 189 certificated teachers out of 519, *i.e.*, 37 *per cent.*, or one certificated teacher to 52 pupils. But National School teachers make up for their poor qualifications by excessive liberality towards the School Fund, to which they often contribute a large proportion of their salaries. The objections to this procedure are obvious.

The improvement of teachers' salaries has always been regarded as an integral if not essential part of the training scheme propounded by Dr. Clark and revised by Mr. Sloss's Committee, but Government accepted the scheme only on the strict condition that no additional expenditure from public funds on an improvement of salaries was to be incurred. Hence any improvement must depend on an enhancement of the scale of fees, which are still at practically pre-war rates.

The concentration of Vernacular Secondary schools continues. The number of such schools fell from 1,197 to 1,172 but attendance increased from 133,844 to 137,248. Five years ago there were 1,333 schools with only 107,335 pupils. The policy of the Local Authorities varies greatly and perhaps the Inspector should have more voice in the recognition of Middle and High Departments, as was recommended by the Vernacular Education Committee. Analysing the figures for attendance we find 886 (727) in the High Department, and 2,680 (2,425) who completed the Middle School course. The bulk of the pupils, no less than 85 *per cent.* are in the Primary standards. The rapid increase in the Middle and High Departments, especially the latter, should however be noted. It results from the stimulus given to Vernacular education by the improvement of salaries. Six years ago the High Department numbered only 153 pupils.

The number of Anglo-Vernacular Schools was 253 (244) of which 102 (98) were High Schools with an attendance of 34,789 (32,681), 140 (140) Middle Schools with an attendance of 21,768 (21,052) and 11 (6) Primary Schools. 11 (10) *per cent.* of the pupils were in the High Standards, 51 (34) in the Middle and 36 (56) in the Primary.

The English High School results were very good, 70 *per cent.* (56 *per cent.*) passing, and those of the Middle School were not unsatisfactory, 55 *per cent.* (61 *per cent.*). The four remaining public examinations, Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular High and Middle, were poor indeed, the percentage varying from 28 to 38. Normally one would expect an examination to yield at least 50 *per cent.* passes, and there is something wrong somewhere, either in the examinations or the teaching, perhaps in both. On the Anglo-Vernacular side the low percentage is partly due to indiscriminate recognition of schools, but that is another story.

In 1920 a scheme for English teaching in Vernacular Schools was adopted, but owing to the low pay and poor qualifications of the teachers it has not proved a success. The average Burman has few opportunities and little need to speak the language. The urgent necessity is to produce a large number of Burmans capable not of writing or speaking English but of reading English books, a much easier and more useful accomplishment. This change of aim would mean a departure from established methods in our Anglo-Vernacular schools. It would mean, for example, the entire abolition of English as the medium of instruction.

Except for the introduction of English as an optional there has for some years been no important change in the Vernacular curriculum and the time has come to overhaul it. Orders have been issued making Burmese compulsory in all Vernacular schools, "except where the management considers its introduction impossible or undesirable", an exception which seems to paralyse the rule. In Anglo-Vernacular and English Schools the Mathematics syllabus has been entirely revised by Professor Owen. Mathematics (one paper in Algebra and Arithmetic and one in Geometry) will take the place of Arithmetic as a compulsory subject, but this change does not come into force immediately. The Geography syllabus has also been revised in accordance with the advice of the Geographical Association.

Building Grants of over Rs 20,000 were made during the year to the following Aided Anglo-Vernacular and English Secondary Schools:—

Methodist Anglo-Vernacular School, Twante; Bengal Academy, Rangoon; St Agnes Convent, Kalaw and Kingswood School, Kalaw

173. The total number of pupils receiving University and Intermediate Education has varied little, being 1,732 against 1,726 of the year before. University College claims 1,292, of whom 53 are part-time students in the Law Classes. More than half, 682, were in the Intermediate classes. Of the remainder, 174 were reading for the B.A., 130 for the ordinary B.Sc., 15 for the B.Sc. Forestry, 65 for the B.Sc. Engineering, 9 for the L.M. & S., 65 for the M.B. & B.S., 27 for the Diploma in Teaching, 58 in the full-time Law Classes and 14 in the M.A. & M.Sc. classes. Of the 291 in Judson College, 203 were in Intermediate classes, 85 were reading for the B.A., or B.Sc. and 3 for the M.A. Adding 106 from the Intermediate College, Mandalay, and 43 from the Agricultural College, we find that of the total of 1,732 no less than 1,034 were in Intermediate classes. Only two-fifths of the students who join the University pass the Intermediate examination and of those who pass less than three-fourths obtain a degree, *i.e.* 30 per cent. of the total.

The classification by race at University College shows one European and one Chinese to about 7 Burmans and 4 Indians. The proportion of Christians to Buddhists is about one to four, though Christians number only 2 per cent. of the population.

Two candidates took the M.A. examination and one (from Judson College) passed; two of three candidates obtained the M.Sc. In the B.A. examination there were fewer entries and fewer passes than last year; 63 passed out of 103, against 83 out of 118. On the other hand, in Science there was a considerable increase, 54 passing out of 92 against 38 out of 69. The percentage of passes in Arts is again somewhat higher than in Science. In the Intermediate examinations 226 passed out of 578, the same low percentage (39 per cent.) as in the previous year.

In June 1928 three of the new hostels, namely Pegu, Thaton and Ava Halls were opened. The remaining two, Pinya and Sagaing, are being used as Lecture-rooms for Arts Classes and as administrative offices. The new central Dining Hall and its cook house, equipped with modern appliances, are a pronounced success. This University now compares favourably in the matter of hostel accommodation with most of the new Universities in England. Fifteen houses for members of the teaching staff are all occupied and 4 smaller houses are expected to be ready for occupation shortly. The Sanatorium, under the supervision of the Medical Warden and a resident Assistant Warden, has been in use throughout the year, but fortunately patients have been few. Extensions to the B.O.C. College of Engineering have already begun and the completion of the workshops will render journeys to Insein unnecessary. A start has been made with the building of the University Students' Union.

Judson College records the laying of the foundation stone of the new Administrative Building in November 1928 by His Excellency the Chancellor, and that of the Women's hostel by Lady Innes. Of the 12 tutors' residences 5 are already occupied. The two halls for men were occupied in June, but teaching had to be continued at Ahlone, a serious though temporary inconvenience.

University College is accumulating a useful library. Three thousand five hundred and sixty-nine books were added during the year and the total is now 26,516. Judson College Library has also added about 3,000 books and has now a total of 13,000.

174. There is one Aided Institution for men with an attendance of 18 and one for women with 27. Government provides 3 institutions, one at Rangoon, for women and one each at Mandalay and Moulmein which admit both sexes; they had a total attendance of 50 (61) men and 77 (7) women. In the examination for the Anglo-Vernacular Teachers' Certificate 100 (143) trained and 102 (77) untrained candidates appeared; 122 (86) of the former and 57 (33) of the latter were successful. Untrained candidates are required to have taught for two years in a recognised school.

The provision for the training of Vernacular teachers is deficient and we have to rely largely on the help of Christian Missions. Proposals for Government Normal Schools at Prome and Moulmein were dropped during the year for lack of funds. The six Aided Vernacular Normal Schools are not satisfied with the present method of allotting stipends which leaves them no voice in the selection of pupils. The question was under the consideration of Government at the end of the year.

Most Vernacular teachers receive a minimum of training at the Elementary Training Classes, where the course is one year only. There were 95 of these classes, one more than the previous year. As owing to the "permanent settlement" Local Authorities are finding it impossible to provide new appointments, care must be taken to limit the numbers to the requirements of wastage, or unemployment results.

At the Convocation in July 1929 4 students took the degree of B.Sc. in Forestry, 8 in Engineering, 32 took the B.L., 10 the B. Medicine and Surgery, and 8 received Diplomas in Teaching.

175. The Medical Departmental of the University College has a Dean of Medical Studies and eleven Professors, of whom five (Mental Diseases, Radiology, Anaesthetics, Contagious Diseases and Dentistry) were added during the year. There were 67 students, a small number, one would think, to such a glut of Professors. The majority, 37, were Indians. Of the remainder 17 were Burmans, 8 Anglo-Indians and 5 Chinese. They were distributed in classes as follows: 2nd M.B.B.S., 28; 3rd M.B.B.S., 13; Final (Part I) M.B.B.S., 5; Final (Part II) M.B.B.S., 12; 2nd L.M. & S., 8, and 3rd L.M. & S., 1. Six of the total were women reading in the 2nd and 3rd M.B.B.S. classes. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir French Connor, I.M.S., Professor of Surgery, Medical College, Calcutta, inspected the Department as representative of the General Medical Council. The question of recognition by the Council has not yet been decided.

There were 65 students at the University Engineering Classes, one more than in the previous year. Of the 28 candidates for the first examination 14 passed, while 16 out of 22 were successful in the final examination for the B.Sc. (Engineering).

All the 27 resident students and 7 candidates from previous years appeared for the Diploma of Education and 19 passed.

There were 43 (40) students in residence at the end of the section in the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Mandalay, 20 in the first year class, 11 in the second and 12 in the 3rd. Of the latter 10 passed. The quality of the men applying for admission to the Agricultural College is stated to be below the average.

During the year the admission rules of the Government Technical Institute, Insein, were revised and a committee was entrusted with the

duty of admitting students. The numbers admitted were 60 in May and 28 in November; 20 completed the ordinary course in Civil Engineering during the year and 15 that in Mechanical Engineering. The Principal reports that in spite of trade depression the Mechanical Engineers did not experience the same difficulty in obtaining posts as in former years. Eight students completed the advanced course in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and were made Associates. The Shan States Federation sends a number of students with Government scholarships to the Institute yearly, and these are said to be a very satisfactory type, industrious and well conducted.

The evening classes, which are controlled by a Sub-Committee of the Governing Body of the Government Technical Institute, continued to be held in rented premises on the top floor of the American Baptist Mission Union Hall High School, Rangoon. The accommodation is insufficient and the need for permanent buildings is becoming more and more apparent. The Science teaching especially suffers in present conditions. A reference library is badly needed—at present there is only a collection of about 40 books on various Engineering subjects.

At the end of the year there were 182 students, about the same number as the year before. Fifty-two were in Civil and 50 in Mechanical Engineering Classes, 54 were in Special Classes and 26 in the Public Health Inspectors' Class. The Principal reports a distinct improvement in the tone and discipline of the classes.

Agricultural education is provided at the Government Central Farms and at the Aided American Baptist Mission School, Pynmana. The De La Salle Institute, Twante, is established on a rubber plantation and teaches planting, engineering and poultry farming. Two boys from the school have recently obtained posts on ocean-going steamers. Rubber planting has fallen on evil days and the Institute is still largely dependant on Government for support.

The Saunders' Weaving Institute, Amarapura, besides providing comprehensive training in two courses, assists the improvement and development of the industry throughout the province by means of travelling demonstrators, who explain new methods and advocate the use of modern appliances. Sixty-one students from 17 districts were under training during the year. The Institute has supplied a large quantity of material for Burmese peons' liveries during the year and appeals to Government officers and others for orders, which will greatly help the Institute. Other schools controlled by the Department of Cottage Industries are a School for Lacquer Work at Pagan and a small Pottery School at Insein.

Six State Scholarships were awarded during the year for Education, Medicine, Printing, Economics, Natural Science and Architectural Engineering. One State scholar who returned last November after passing the M.Sc. of London University was still without work some months later. This suggests a fear for the future of the 65 men now reading for the B.Sc. (Engineering) at University College.

Forty-two boys apprenticed at workshops were awarded new stipends and 35 old stipends were continued.

The number of students at Government Accountancy classes was 31 (18). Fourteen students appeared for the final examination held by the Accountancy Diploma Board, Bombay, but only one secured a pass. The utility of these classes is open to question.

The number of Survey schools was 5, as last year. Of the 106 students who were admitted 93 completed the course. Improvement in the educational qualifications of the pupils continues. The proportion of VIIIth and Higher Standard qualifications was 91 *per cent.* as compared with 74 *per cent.* last year. The schools were inspected during the year by the officers of the Land Records and the Education Departments. Of the 112 candidates who sat for the examination in June 1928, 57 passed.

There are 7 Commercial Schools in Rangoon, 1 at Mandalay, 1 at Thayetmyo, 1 at Prome and 1 at Moulmein. They are under private management. The condition of most of these schools is not satisfactory.

At the Reformatory School instruction is reported to be given in carpentry, tin-smithing and shoe-making. In other schools 644 pupils learnt weaving, 210 lace-making. Sewing was taught in 1,142 schools to 30,000 girls. Twelve thousand boys learnt the mysterious art of "Sloyd" which includes wood-work, cane-work and mat-weaving. A few schools taught book-binding and printing. School gardens were still maintained in 400 schools despite the lack of all encouragement from Government.

There is a constant demand for the inclusion of vocational instruction in the curriculum of the ordinary school, but such specialising, at least before the age of 16 or 17, is really absurd.

176. The number of Europeans attending recognised schools appears to have increased from 6,238 to 6,442. The European Education increase is shared by all stages of education from the Primary stage to the University, with the exception of Training Schools for Teachers, there are now only 51 women under training for the profession, and not a single man. University students increased from 111 to 125.

More than half the European pupils, namely 3,298 were in Rangoon, 1,313 were in Mandalay and 1,084 in Moulmein, leaving about 750 for the rest of Burma. There was a comparatively slight increase of only 254 in the number of non-Europeans attending English schools, and the percentage of such pupils is now 39. The Inspector who deals with English schools in Rangoon reports no material changes in their condition and says they have had a successful year. He considers that little or no deterioration has resulted from the influx of non-Europeans.

During the year Heads of English Schools were consulted regarding the date of the annual examination and two-thirds of them were in favour of changing the date to March, the same time as the Anglo-Vernacular examinations. The change has many advantages; it is certainly desirable for those who proceed to the University and under existing arrangements are stranded between December and June. It will take effect from March 1931.

177. Mahomedans in public schools numbered 24,458 (23,234) and in private schools 6,348 (6,278). The Education of Mahomedans and special classes of girls continued to expand and increased this year from 6,313 to 6,587. It has received a stimulus from the establishment of a Girls' Middle School in Rangoon under the care of Mrs. Tyabji.

The Deputy Inspector of Arakan reports the loss of 6 schools with 357 pupils, owing to lack of funds, and the Deputy Inspector of Lower Burma complains that in fifteen of his seventeen districts Mahomedan schools failed to obtain recognition. Local Education Authorities are greatly restricted in the matter of recognising new schools, and it is possible that the minority communities are the first to suffer.

The language difficulty must be mentioned but with bated breath, for any allusion excites the worst emotions. From an educational point of view it is certainly undesirable to instruct in a foreign language pupils who will mostly leave from the Lower Primary standards, especially, it may be added, when the script is written backwards; but we are told that the claims of religion are paramount. It is satisfactory to find that of the total of 30,805 (29,547) Mahomedans under instruction 11,031 (10,449) are in ordinary schools.

As regards other special classes and communities, Karen education, the most important section, seems to have received a check, the numbers 56,501, being practically stationary. An important question affecting this community is the extent of recognition to be given to their language or rather languages. The Sgaw-Karens want their dialect to be the national language, but the Pwos and others do not share this enthusiasm and would often prefer Burmese.

Except for Palaungs and Danus the remaining races show increased attendance. The increase from 1,471 to 1,857 among the Inthas is specially satisfactory, as they seem to be more promising material than most other races in the Shan States.

The number of pupils in recognised Shan Vernacular Schools has decreased again, but this time, only by 190.

The School for the Sons of Shan Chiefs continues to do good work. The boys who passed the High School Examination both came with Middle School Scholarships from the Anglo-Vernacular School, Lashio, and passed in two years.

Chins show a large increase, from 2,233 to 4,898 as a result of the special attention paid to them by Colonel Burne, ably seconded by the Revd. Mr. Cope, Honorary Inspector of Schools, Chin Hills. The latter has submitted a full and interesting report, showing that considerable success has been achieved in spite of many difficulties. The daring experiment of instruction in English in the Middle Standards is still on trial and is to be continued for the present.

The number of non-Muslim Indians under instruction has increased by about a thousand and now stands at 14,699.

The S.P.G. Mission to the Blind continues to maintain one school for boys at Kemmendine and one for girls at Moulmein with attendances of 28 and 16 respectively.

There were 27 Night Schools, 20 in Rangoon and 7 elsewhere, with an attendance of 2,523 pupils. Twenty-six of these received grants-in-aid.

Twenty Libraries applied for grants-in-aid and 18 received them. There are many local libraries apparently unaware of Government's munificence, though this is widely advertised.

178. The present year shows a considerable increase of attendance of female pupils throughout, except in one small and negligible item, that of special schools.

Female Education

The number of girls attending all classes of public institutions now stands at 191,934, an increase of 11,308 on the preceding year. The results of the Public Examinations were disappointing and girls shared in the general failure. Though the number of candidates increased, that of passes declined in the Anglo-Vernacular High and Middle School Examinations and in the Vernacular IX standard.* But an encouraging feature of the results was the increase from 449 to 543 in the number of successful candidates for the Vernacular Middle School Examination. These girls, it may be hoped, will help to correct the disproportion between men and women teachers in the Vernacular Schools.

In England about three-fourths of the Elementary Teachers are women, but in Burma less than one-third. The difference is largely due to social conditions, since it is almost impossible for a girl in this country to work away from her home. In the co-educational system prevailing here the growth of girls' education depends on an increased employment of women-teachers in the village schools.

The figures for the University examinations are normal. The number taking the B.A. degree is the same as last year, 14. Women still show a distaste for Science (or is it lack of opportunity?), and only one took the B.Sc. degree. One graduate received the M.A. degree.

There have been no important changes of curricula. The difficulty of adjusting curricula to suit the special needs of girls is shown in the last Quinquennial Report (page 28). For example, Hygiene with Domestic Economy has ousted the Second Language as a compulsory subject in English Schools, a regrettable necessity, for education can hardly be regarded as secondary unless it includes at least one foreign language. Similarly in the Anglo-Vernacular Middle school, Needlework takes the place of Geometry. Such changes seem inevitable, since girls require these extra subjects and we cannot add to their burden.

The Inspectress of Schools, referring to the special subjects for girls, says that Needlework in Anglo-Vernacular and English schools is generally good, but in Vernacular Schools the teaching is ineffective except where supervised by Christian Missionaries. The Needlework Exhibition was held in Moulmein in November. There was a slight decrease in the number of entries but the quality of the exhibits showed improvement. Singing is well taught in Anglo-Vernacular and English Schools but has hardly obtained a footing in Vernacular schools, though in some Indian schools the national music is taken as a special school subject. Lace-making is still confined to St. Mary's, Rangoon and Kemmendine, and Cookery is taught only in English schools. Drill is on the whole well-taught but in Hygiene the teaching is not sufficiently practical.

The Inspectress found time to visit some of the girls' Elementary Training Classes and on the whole was pleased with their work, but she notes the low qualifications of the students, some of whom have passed only standard V, and the difficulty of teaching Needlework to girls from remote villages where the art is unknown. One of the best features of the curriculum drawn by her predecessor is the emphasis laid on practice in Domestic Economy. The girls take it in turn to do the marketing, cooking, house-keeping, etc., and they get a practical training alongside the theoretical work of the class-room.

Besides supervising the work of 6 Deputy Inspectresses, the Inspectress is responsible for the literary inspection of 13 schools, for the

inspection of special subjects in 36 others and the control of 32 (28) Elementary Training Classes for Girls.

It is a depressing fact that 80 *per cent.* of the total number of girls in attendance are still in the Lower Primary stage.

179. There is accommodation for 200 boys at the Reformatory School, but as usual the actual number was about 100. Over one half were Burmans, one-third Indians and about one-eighth Chinese. Three-fourths of the boys had been convicted of theft or house-breaking. Of the 104 boys 72 had lost one or both parents. The monthly cost per head, inclusive of all charges, is given as Rs. 25-4-0 against Rs. 28 in the previous year, and it is stated that if the school were full the cost would be reduced to Rs. 19. This must be considered a low figure. In the Blind Schools (which however are expected to be more costly) the Government grant alone, apart from private subscriptions, comes to Rs. 20 a month. The Superintendent reports that the boys share Mr. Alec Paterson's objections to high walls and iron bars and some of them overcame these obstacles in order to enjoy the October holidays at home. Otherwise discipline was satisfactory. Foot-ball, *chintlon*, boxing and other sports are taken up and the school has a Scout's Troop, which received an excellent report from the Chief Scout Master. Two Scout Camps were held. The school was visited during the year by His Excellency the Governor.

Literature and the Press

180. The number of books published in 1928 was 92, as compared with 122 in the previous year. There has been a decline in the publication of books since 1925. The book trade does not appear to have escaped the general depression of trade in Burma. Of the 92 publications 38 were religious works chiefly on Buddhism, 13 were on Language, 10 on Science, 3 each on Law and Poetry, 2 each on Hygiene and Medicine, one each on Fiction, History, Travel, Literature and Astrology, and the remainder on miscellaneous subjects. The important feature among Buddhist religious books is a series of Burmese translations of three Pitakas by *Saya Myo*, A.M.P. This is the first of its kind and is very popular as it is not interspersed with Pali. Thirty-seven of the books were written in Burmese, 28 in Pali Burmese, 14 in Pali and 10 in English.

181. Exclusive of the three Government presses there were at the close of the year 370 presses in Burma, an increase of 25 over the previous year's figure. The number in Rangoon rose from 122 to 133 and in Mandalay from 82 to 86. The number of newspapers declined slightly from 55 to 53. Rangoon newspapers remained the same at 43, and Bassein at 2; Mandalay increased from 4 to 5, but Amherst decreased from 3 to 1, and Akyab from 3 to 2. Nineteen of the newspapers were published in Burmese and 18 in English. Seventeen of the newspapers were dailies, 16 were weeklies, 18 were published either twice or thrice a week and the remaining two were monthlies. The number of periodicals, (excluding Government publications) rose from 60 to 72. Of these 27 were in

English, the same number in Burmese, and the remaining 18 in other languages. Forty-five were monthlies. Including those published by Government the number of periodicals increased by 16 from 163 to 179. In Rangoon itself the number rose by 14 from 147 to 161.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 299 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 19-1-22.

182 The membership of the Rangoon Literary Society at the time of report was 216. During the year 490 books were purchased costing Rs. 1,991-14. The Society now has a collection of 17,000 books. The Travelling Library continued to work smoothly, sending 750 books to 25 centres. The Burma Book Club continues to do good work. An exhibition of pictures was again held this year. A new development has been the publication of two translations in Burmese. The Rangoon Teachers' Association continues to receive its annual subsidy from Government. Five lectures were held under its auspices during the year. The number of readers who made use of the Bernard Free Library decreased from 5,925 to 5,158 and the number of registered borrowers from 2,192 to 2,088. Of these, Burmans numbered 895, Indians 683, Europeans and Anglo-Indians 336 and others 174. The usual grants were received from the Local Government and Rangoon Corporation. The number of members of the Rangoon Bar Library Association increased from 138 in 1927 to 144 in 1928. The number of members of the Rangoon Pleaders Association was the same as in 1927, namely 55. Members are still irregular in the payment of their subscriptions and the proposed library has not yet materialised.

Arts and Sciences.

183. The Annual Provincial Art Exhibition was moved forward to November so as to coincide with the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Burma and enable him to get a glimpse of the various arts and handicrafts of this Province.

In order to make it of greater interest to Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Irwin, a number of stalls at which artisans were actually demonstrating their work, together with the samples of the products at various stages of completion, were added to the usual demonstration stalls of weaving, pottery, and lacquer. The number of stalls was larger than usual. An extra "village" of 20 temporary stalls was put up in the Jubilee Hall grounds, while the number of stalls in the large "village" which has now become an annual feature of the Exhibition was increased from 50 to 60.

The quality of the articles was well up to the usual standard, but the number of them was not so great as there is not such a good sale for them at the end of the rains as in February, the usual month for holding the Exhibition. Also the time that had elapsed since the last Exhibition was three months shorter than usual. The Honourable Minister for Forests noted that the exhibits showed improvement in workmanship and design.

The picture section was well filled although some of the regular contributors were away on leave in Europe. The number of Burmese artists who compete under European standards is gradually increasing.

The exhibits from the Shan States were fewer than usual but were enhanced by a party of Shans who demonstrated paper making, and by a number of beautiful Palaung dresses of various patterns which were very kindly sent down by the *Sawbwa* of Tawngpeng for exhibition.

Regarding pottery, the Honourable Minister remarked that modern conditions of living call for a much improved type of pottery, which at present is imported as it cannot be produced locally. The Government Pottery Expert, however, has taken up the question of making this type of pottery locally—a few specimens of his work were on view at the Exhibition—and potters in Burma were advised to get in touch with the Expert, whose knowledge and experience were always at their service.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHAEOLOGY

184 The Archaeological Department continued to devote attention to the conservation of protected monuments. The special repairs consisted of (1) the continuation of the work on the Dhammayasika Pagoda at Pwasaw Village, Pagan, which has now been completed at a total cost of Rs 43,390, (2) the extension of the reinforced concrete roof on the eastern side of the Western Petleik Pagoda near Thiipyitsaya Village, Pagan, (3) the extension of the repairs to the Lawkananda Pagoda near Thiipyitsaya Village, Pagan and (4) the execution of the repairs to the Thambula and Nandamannya temples at Minnanthu, Pagan. These temples contain beautiful frescoes which are considered of great value as they depict scenes evidencing the prevalence in Burma of Tantric Buddhism, a form of worship which has long been replaced by the present form of Buddhism of the Theravada school. The usual annual repairs were executed at various places throughout the province.

Exploration work was continued at Hmawza (old Prome) and at Pagan. Altogether 32 mounds were dug into at Hmawza during the season. Most of them proved to be the remains of ruined stupas and contained chiefly terra-cotta votive tablets of different types but some were burial mounds containing numerous earthenware funeral urns. At one mound a small bronze headless image with a short inscription in Sanskrit on its pedestal was unearthed. A previous document in Sanskrit was brought to light last year and these two documents, which may be assigned to about the seventh century, settle the fact of the existence at Prome at an early period of both Pali and Sanskrit. The first find made at Pagan during the year was a stone figure of a Hindu deity identified as that of a form of Siva. It probably belonged originally to a Hindu temple but no trace could be found of one in the neighbourhood. A stone figure of Ganesa, the son of Siva and Uma, was also found. He appears to have been rather a popular deity. He is represented sitting cross-legged on a pedestal which is ornamented with the figures of a crocodile, fish and tortoise. This is the first figure found up to date ornamented with these three aquatic animals. Many other interesting finds were unearthed at Pagan during the year, including some pot-bellied figures (also found at Hmawza). At Mandalay fragments of a stone sculpture of exquisite workmanship were unearthed during the year by people digging for bricks. Although only $7\frac{1}{2}$ " in height, there are grouped together on it several scenes of the Buddha's life. This and other similar sculptures found at Pagan and at Sarnath may be assigned to the same country of origin, namely, the ancient Magadha country and to the same period, namely, about the eleventh or thirteenth century A.D.

The following publication was issued by the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Burma Circle, during the year "Epigraphia Birmanica, Vol. III, Part II, illustrated with Plates I to XXIV" It contains a Mon version of the Pali text of the inscriptions of the Kalyani Sima by Mr. C. O. Blagden.

There was no occasion to take any action under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act and no addition was made to the list of protected monuments.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES—

Report of the Chemical Examiner to the Government of Burma for the year 1928

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume IV

Report on the Working of the office of the Superintendent, Government Printing and Stationery, Burma, for the year 1928-29.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 302 to 304 of the Report on the Administration of Burma, for the year 1921-22, and the paragraph under this head in the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1925-26.

Ecclesiastical.

185. The Rt. Rev. Norman Henry, Tubbs, D D., M.A., took over charge of the Diocese of Rangoon on the 18th September 1928 and the Ven'ble W. H. Cowper-Johnson, M.A., Archdeacon of Rangoon and Bishop's Commissary, was transferred to the Chaplaincy of Maymyo. During the year under review the Rev. N. K. Anderson, M.A., returned from leave, and the Revs. G. A. R. Thursfield, M.A. and W. R. Park, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.A., proceeded on 13 months' and 8 months' leave respectively.

Chemical Examiner to the Government of Burma.

186. The number of examinations made in the Chemical Examiner's Laboratory fell from 11,343 in 1927 to 10,920 in 1928. The decrease was due to the fall in the number of cases of opium sent for examination. Arsenic headed the list as the most frequently detected poison.

Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery.

187. The Government Press and its branches were fully occupied during the year. There was, however, a considerable reduction in the aggregate quantity of Guard-book forms turned out in the Jail Branch Press. This was directly due to the control in the consumption of forms effected by the grant of monetary allotments limiting expenditure thereon. The total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 1 12 lakhs against Rs. 1'05 lakhs last year,

an increase of Rs. 0'67 *lakh*. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 9'51 *lakhs* against Rs. 10'11 *lakhs* last year, the decrease of Rs. 1'10 *lakhs* being mainly due to the reduced expenditure on account of stationery stores and freight charges owing to the introduction of the allotment system for standard forms. The cost of work done in the Central Press, including the cost of paper and binding materials was Rs. 6'89 *lakhs* against Rs. 6'45 *lakhs* in the previous year, in the Jui Branch Press it was Rs. 3'89 *lakhs* against Rs. 4'49 *lakhs*, and in the Maymyo Branch Press Rs. 0'22 *lakh* against Rs. 0'20 *lakh*. The aggregate cost for the year for all three presses was Rs. 11'0 *lakhs* against Rs. 11'13 *lakhs*.

188. The amount realised by sales during the year was Rs. 66,781 for the Provincial Government, Rs. 2,826 for the Central Government, and Rs. 5,351 on account of maps for the Survey of India, against Rs. 51,536, Rs. 3,723 and Rs. 4,823, respectively, last year. The aggregate value of publications disposed of by sale, free issues, etc., was Rs. 1,60,061, against Rs. 1,37,598 in 1927-28. Commission on account of sales on behalf of the Central Government and the Survey of India was estimated to amount to Rs. 2,173 against Rs. 1,713 last year.

189. The cost of stores purchased for the Stationery Depôt, including freight charges and customs duty, etc., amounted to Rs. 4'31 *lakhs* against Rs. 5'38 *lakhs* last year. The stores received from England were valued at Rs. 0'68 *lakh* against Rs. 0'58 *lakh* and the stores obtained in India at Rs. 3'08 *lakhs* against Rs. 4'22 *lakhs* during 1927-28. The total cost of stores supplied to the various departments during the year amounted to Rs. 4,46,213 against Rs. 5,23,483 in 1927-28. Stores to the value of Rs. 2,88,617 were supplied to the Printing and Stationery Department the major portion of which, as usual, was utilized to meet the demands for printing work by other departments. Stores to the value of Rs. 11,682 against Rs. 11,059 last year, were supplied to the Shan States Federation Departments and other bodies on payment. Most of the paper supplied to departments of Government and for use in the Press was obtained from Indian Mills as before.

